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☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Select matter, Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family.
☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year (52 Issues), $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.
☞ Money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from.
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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. IX. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 5, 1871. NO. 75.

FIRST EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

THE MESSAGE SATISFACTORY TO ALL PARTIES.

Composition of the Committees

Protectionists Not Pleased with the Ways and Means.

Report of the Chief Engineer.

Estimated Expenditures for 1873.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 4, 1871.

The Message

Was received with great satisfaction in both Houses to-day, and the recommendations concerning taxation, tariff and amnesty are regarded generally as insuring for it very great popularity throughout the country. The amnesty feature was entirely unexpected, and Democrats are warm in expressions of approval of that portion.

The Committees.

Speaker Blaine got off to-day from his disagreeable task of appointing committees with less censure than is customary on these occasions. There were more or less complaints, but these have now come to be a recognized feature necessarily accompanying the discharge of this complicated undertaking. There are quite a number of members who insist that the committees as announced to-day have been considerably changed since the Speaker's first arrival in the city, and that in no inconsiderable number of instances these changes have been made as a matter of political expediency than any sincere regard for the public service. However this may be, the majority of members are satisfied with their assignments. As heretofore stated, Mr. Dawes was transferred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and Garfield was assigned to Dawes's old place on Appropriations. It cannot be said that either of these gentlemen is entirely satisfied with his present position, or that either feels that his tastes or anticipations have been complied with, but both are known to be compliant with the United States statutes. At least this is the way in which he puts it. He wanted and expected Military Affairs, and looked more like an intolerably abused martyr than any other member of the House when the list was finally read, though of course he considers it a personal slight, and will probably make many allusions to it during the present session. Shellebarger's appointment to the head of Commerce gives the House more satisfaction than that member himself, especially in view of the importance and arduousness of its labors and his own indifferent health. Lynch, the member from Maine, who now has served six years on the committee, feels just a little bit sore that his claims were overlooked. The Claims Committee looms up to the first importance, in view of the vast amount of Southern business to come before it this winter, and Blairs's election as Chairman of this committee, both on account of his legal acquirements and honesty as regarded as one of the best made. It was somewhat of an agreeable disappointment to Farnsworth that he was continued at the head of the Postoffice and Post Roads Committee. Shanks, as Chairman of Indian Affairs, in view of existing difficulties in this quarter, was also well received, and it is universally admitted that his appointment was one of the best that could be made. Everybody expected that Bingham would be continued at the head of the Judiciary Committee, and his appointment is made up in satisfaction it what lacked in surprise. The Territorial delegates and those representing territories which are clamoring for admission, are more than pleased with the Territorial Committee. Hooper, of Utah, who had listened to the President's message with fear and trembling, and who had expected at least to hear sentence of excommunication pronounced against his people, backed up by the announcement of a Territorial Committee which would show no mercy, when the latter was announced went around to be congratulated that he and his people had a prospect for a peaceful solution of their difficulties, with the possibility also that Utah might be admitted into the Union as a State on a compromise which he himself has been authorized to suggest.

Report of the Chief Engineer.

The report of the Chief Engineer this year fills over one thousand pages. Following are among the principal recommendations: Louisville canal for the fiscal year 1873, and which can profitably be expended, and which will complete the work, $300,000; Cumberland river below Nashville, $219,000; improving Illinois river, $150,000; improvement Rock Island Rapids, $100,000. The officer in charge of the Rock Island Bridge reports that the money already appropriated is sufficient for its completion. The officer in charge of the Des Moines Rapids asks for $1,000,000 to complete the canal, but the chief engineer says the details of this estimate have not arrived, and so no recommendation is made. The officer in charge of the improvement of the river makes the following estimates: For building dams above the falls, $144,500; for dam below the falls, $195,000.

New Public Building for Chicago.

Representative Farwell has prepared a bill relative to the burnt public building in Chicago, which he will offer in the House tomorrow. It provides for the purchase by the Secretary of the Treasury of that portion of the old Postoffice square not now owned by the Government, if it can be obtained at a reasonable price by private purchase or by condemnation. If it cannot be reasonably purchased, the Secretary will be authorized by the bill to select any other square within the two squares of the old site. The bill limits the total cost of the ground and buildings subsequently to be erected to four million dollars, of which only two millions are at present appropriated. The new building is intended to contain all the Government offices.

The Estimates.

The following are the estimates for the fiscal year ending June, 1873: Legislative, executive and judical, $24,249,000; military establishment, $31,423,000; naval, $8,946,000; Indians, $5,446,000; revisions, $20,480,000; public works, $19,469,000; postal service, $5,474,000; miscellaneous, $11,258,000; permanent appropriations, $154,961,000; total, $301,705,000; total for 1872, $309,620,000.

Republican Senatorial Caucus.

The Republican caucus of the Senate will meet on Wednesday, to decide upon the committees. The Chairmanship of Private Land Claims will probably be given to a Democrat, so as to give members of that party a committee room for their exclusive use, and the Democrats will be asked to name one member for each committee.

Real and Personal Property in Ohio.

Col. Harrington, of the Census office, has prepared a statement showing the returns of real and personal property of Ohio. The assessed value of real estate is $707,846,836; assessed value of personal estate, $459,884,861. Of this Hamilton county has $98,000,000 real estate, and $68,000,000 personal.

Importation of Dry Goods.

The importation of foreign dry goods at the port of New York during the five weeks ending the 30th of November were $8,842,976 this year, against $8,967,238 in 1870. There has been a decrease on the manufactures of wool and silk entered for consumption, and of silk and flax entered for warehousing. This is offset in part by an increase in the entries for consumption of linen and miscellaneous dry goods, and of the wool, cotton and miscellaneous fabrics entered for warehousing, leaving a falling off in the total entries at the port of only $14,262. The withdrawals from warehouse during the month exceed those of the same period in 1870 by about $427,000, or by the amount $427,000 is on woolens, and the balance is distributed over silk and miscellaneous fabrics. There is a slight decrease on cottons and linens.

REPORT

OF THE

Secretary of the Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, December 4, 1871.

REDUCTION OF THE DEBT.

SIR: The country has been prosperous during the year now closing, and the public finances have shared in the general prosperity. During the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1871, the reduction of the public debt was $94,327,764 94. The total decrease in the public debt from March 1st, 1869, to December 1st, 1871, was $277,211,892 16: and during the same period the annual interest has been reduced $16,741,426 04.

A REDUCTION OF TAXES PRACTICABLE AND ADVISABLE.

The revenue for the year 1871, and the receipts since the 1st of July last, show that the time has arrived when a considerable further reduction in taxes can be made, and yet leave the Government in a position to pay $50,000,000 annually of the principal debt, including the amount pledged through the sinking fund.

In my annual report to Congress for 1870, I expressed the opinion that the settled policy of the country should contemplate a revenue sufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of the Government, pay the interest on the public debt, and from twenty-five to fifty millions of dollars of the principal annually. To that opinion I adhere, and even a stronger conviction that the payment annually upon the principal of the public debt should not be less than fifty millions of dollars. Large as the revenues of the country have been during the last three years, our system of taxation has not been oppressive to individuals, nor has it in any sensible degree embarrassed the business of the country; and while relief from taxation is desirable, it is more desirable to maintain the public credit in its present elevated position, not only as an example to other nations, but for its historical value, in enabling the Government to make and transfer large amounts upon favorable terms, if, unhappily in the future, an emergency should require such loans to be made. The power to negotiate a large loan at five per cent., and enter upon negotiations for the sale of bonds bearing five, four and a half and four per cent. interest, is derived entirely from the exhibition of an honest purpose on the part of the people to maintain the public faith, and on the part of the Government by large and frequent payments upon the public debt.

THE REVENUE FROM CUSTOMS.

The revenue from customs for the year 1871 was greatly in excess of the estimates, amounting to $206,270,408 05; against $194,538,374 44 for the preceding year. The cost of collecting this revenue was $6,560,672 61 for 1871, being 3.11 per cent., while the cost for the year 1870 was $6,327,137 28, or 3.20 per cent. The appropriations for the collection of customs, with the additions derived from fees and penalties, for the past fiscal year, exceeded the expenditures by the sum of more than $600,000, and there is no doubt that the permanent appropriation will be ample for the present year and for the next fiscal year. The reduction of expenditure may be the first of January, 1873, under the act of July 14, 1870, diminished the importation of wines during the last six months of the year 1870; but there was consequently a large addition to the revenues for the first six months of the year 1871. A comparison of the first six months of the calendar year 1870 shows an increase of fifty-five per cent. in the quantity imported; twenty per cent. in the quantity of cognac brandy paying $3 per gallon, and eighty per cent. in the quantity of melado; one hundred and thirty-nine per cent. in the quantity of spices, and a large increase in many other articles. The probabilities are that the customs revenue for the current year will exceed that for the year 1870 and 1871.

INTERNAL REVENUE.

The receipts from internal revenue were $143,098,153 63, being $4,648,984 29 less than the estimates presented to Congress in December last for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1871. The estimates for the current fiscal year were $126,418,000; and it is probable that the receipts will be equal to the estimates.

The net receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1871, were as follows:

From customs	$206,270,408 05
From Internal Revenue	143,098,153 63
From sales of Public Lands	2,388,646 68
From miscellaneous sources	31,066,156 36
Total	$383,223,944 89

The estimate of expenditures for the same period were:

For civil and miscellaneous purposes	$69,498,710 91
For the War Department	35,199,991 82

This is the net amount, after deducting $5,398,405 19, repaid into the Treasury as the proceeds of sales of ordnance, &c. The true expenditures were $44,598,084 96.

For the Navy Department	19,421,097 21
For Indians	7,520,997 41
For pensions	34,443,894 88
For interest on the public debt	132,147,358 97
Total	$292,177,138 95

The miscellaneous revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, were derived from the following sources:

Premium on the sales of coin	$ 8,892,529 95
Fees from United States consuls	565,563 24
Storage, cost, labor, &c., at Custom House	41,310 61
Fines, penalties and forfeitures for violations of custom laws	592,579 86
Fees on letters patents	620,319 11
Tax on circulation, deposits, &c., of National Banks	6,062,584 09
Repayment of interest by Pacific railway companies	813,284 75
Income tax from other land fees	445,962
Steamboat fees and marine hospital tax	385,535 16
Proceeds of sale of coin interest on sinking and special funds	7,701,662 73
From miscellaneous sources	3,175,189 69
Total	$ 31,198,374 60

The expenditures for the same period, excluding payments on account of the sinking fund, were:

For civil and miscellaneous purposes	$ 8,574,132 46
For War Department	12,590,652 08
For Navy Department	6,553,040 80
For Indians	3,404,433 42
For pensions	8,999,698 69
For interest on the public debt	36,733,109 57
Total	$83,903,382 72

The estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters of the present year are:

From customs	148,000,000 00
From Internal Revenue	90,000,000 00
From sales of public lands	2,000,000 00
From miscellaneous sources	18,000,000 00
Total	258,000,000 00

The estimated expenditures for the same period, excepting payments on account of the sinking fund, are:

For civil and miscellaneous purposes	50,000,000 00
For war department	30,000,000 00
For navy department	15,500,000 00
For the Indians	6,000,000 00
For interest on public debt	85,000,000 00
Total	$289,000,000 00

These estimates show a balance applicable to the payment of the principal of the public debt for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, of $31,794,944 89.

The receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, are estimated as follows:

Receipts from all sources	$272,000,000 00
From sale of public lands	4,000,000 00
From miscellaneous sources	25,000,000 00
Total	$256,000,000 00
Expenditures	243,811,812 40
Executive establishment	17,144,581 38
Judicial establishment	3,933,250 00
Military establishment	31,422,509 88
Naval establishment	15,942,899 95
Indian Affairs	5,445,617 97
Pensions	30,489,000 00
Public works under Treasury Department	3,195,500 00
Public works under Interior Department	2,443,000 00
Public works under War Department	14,169,200 00
Public works under Navy Department	1,483,100 00
Public works under Agricultural Department	26,500 00
Total	$194,685,629 73
Postal service	547,400,100 00
Miscellaneous	11,250,000 00
Permanent Appropriations	151,628,197 40
Sinking Fund	22,995,950 00
Interest upon the capital of Sinking Fund	5,783,333 00
Total	$301,709,036 99

These estimates show a balance of $57,294,963 01 applicable to the payment of the principal of the debt, in addition to the sum of $2,066,792 63 due on account of the sinking fund, or a total of $59,361,226 01 in all. In the estimates for the next fiscal year, I have not included in the receipts of duties on gold, which may be similar to the expenditure as the premium which may be paid on bonds to be purchased in currency.

In the suggestions I have the honor to make in reference to the reduction of taxes, I keep in view two important facts: first, that the ability of the nation to pay at least $50,000,000 annually of the principal of the public debt, and second, that the revenue is, secondly, that in the change of the revenue system, no violence shall be done to the just interests of the country.

PROSPERITY OF THE COUNTRY.

While I do not undertake to state the causes which have contributed to the public prosperity, there is no substantial reason for questioning the truth of the statement, that the last few years have been a season of prosperous industry in the history of the country—years without example in our own affairs, and without parallel in the affairs of other governments. It is practicable to dispense with all revenue from internal sources except that derived from stamps, spirits, tobacco and malt liquors. These sources should furnish for the year 1872-73 a revenue of about $110,000,000, making a reduction of $16,000,000. The revenue from customs under existing laws, and from lands and miscellaneous sources, should amount to about $235,000,000 more, making a total revenue for that year of $345,000,000. The expenses of the Government, not including amount payable on account of the sinking fund, are estimated at $292,000,000. If to this amount be added $50,000,000 for payments on account of the public debt, including amount paid on sinking fund, there remains a balance of about $20,000,000, within which reductions may be made in the revenue from customs. This amount added to the $16,000,000 proposed under the Internal Revenue laws, leaves a total reduction of $36,000,000. In this view I respectfully recommend to the consideration of Congress the reduction of the duties on salt to the extent of fifty per cent; the duty on bituminous coal to fifty cents per ton; the reduction of the duty on raw hides and skins and the removal of all duties from a large class of articles produced in other countries which enter into the arts and manufactures of this country, and which are not produced in the United States and the revenue from which is inconsiderable. Such is, with the revenue derived from each article, is in the interest of production, and will be a benefit to Congress. The removal of duties from a large class of articles used in manufactures and from a portion of the duties upon coal furnish an opportunity for a moderate decrease in the rate of duties upon these products whose cost will be diminished by these changes.

While nothing as the consequence of legislation could be more disastrous to public prosperity than a policy which should destroy or seriously disturb the manufacturing interest of the country, it is still possible, by wise and moderate changes, to adapt the conditions of business and labor, to reduce the rates of duties with benefit to every class of people.

GOLD AND CURRENCY.

The average premium on gold for the year 1861 was 29.54 per cent.; for the year 1869 it was 32.55 per cent., 1870, twenty-five per cent., for the year 1870 it was 14.33 per cent. premium, and for the first eleven months of the year 1871 it was 12.1 per cent. premium. The value of the paper currency of the country during the years 1869 and 1870 was apparently appreciated by the increased use of paper money in the South, but chiefly by the establishment in the credit of the United States on a specie basis. On the first of January, 1871, the last named fact was fully accomplished, and since that time the appreciation of the paper currency has been due wholly to the increased demand for it in the business affairs of the country. The difference between the value of paper money at the present moment and on the 1st of December, 1870, may be attributed to the latter cause, and furnishes the best means by which the country has yet had for ascertaining the quantity of paper currency which could be used, and its value kept at par with gold. The result of this test concurs with what seems to me to be the best opinion upon the subject, that the amount of paper money which can be safely issued is that it cannot be maintained in value at par with coin. There are two modes of relief: one by the increasing demands of business, which in time will produce the desired result. The chief means of securing the end sought without a reduction in the volume of the currency would be the use of paper upon the Pacific coast. With this object in view, steps have already been taken by this Department for the purpose of ascertaining whether it is practicable to substitute paper for coin; and I have reason to anticipate that a change may be made in the laws relating to National banks tending to that result, which will not affect unfavorably the general character of the system.

ABOLITION OF THE MIXED SYSTEM URGED.

It is my duty to call the attention of Congress to the importance of abolishing the system of shares in mottles as far as the benefits therein accrue to revenue officers and other persons officially connected with the government. This measure was recommended in my last annual report, and a statement was submitted to Congress showing the amount received by officers of customs, together with a bill increasing their salaries without any increase of appropriations upon the Treasury, the sum now paid from mottles being sufficient to place the entire force upon a satisfactory footing in regard to pay. During the last fiscal year the offices of Collector and Surveyor of the port of New York each received from mottles the sum of $49,226 69, and the naval office the sum of $48,195 59. In most of these cases the officers do not perform special services entitling them to the amounts granted, and importers and others whose business brings them into official investigation complain, I think, with just reason, that the officers receiving the amounts above have a pecuniary interest in pursuing those charged with the violations of the law. The Government ought to pay fair salaries for the services rendered by all officers for the performance of their duty. One of the difficulties which the department has to meet frequently is, that custom officers have an interest in proceedings for the discovery of fraud, the settlement of cases, or the prosecution of them, which is different from the sole interest of the government. As a necessary result, the conduct of such officers is open to suspicion, both on the part of those who are published by them and the government that they ostensibly represent. It may be deemed expedient to leave the law as it now stands in regard to informers, who are not officers, making it a penal offense for any officer to enter into an arrangement with an informer for any share of the proceeds of the information, and giving to the informer a perpetual right of action for the recovery of any money or other valuable thing paid or given to an officer engaged in the discovery or prosecution of a fraud or legal wrong against the government.

THE ADDITIONAL NATIONAL BANK CIRCULATION.

The report of the Comptroller of the Currency shows that one hundred and forty-five new banks have been organized under the act approved July 12, 1871, providing for the issue of $54,000,000 of additional bank circulation, and that the sum of $27,000,000 has been issued. By the terms of the same act, the Treasury has redeemed $22,220,000, of three per cent. certificates then in circulation, leaving the sum of $23,490,000 now outstanding. I take the liberty of suggesting that it appears to me to be wise to leave the distribution of the circulation authorized by said act as it now stands. Should the banks that have already received their proportion of circulation be authorized to take what may remain, only a brief time will elapse before a demand will be made from States with limited circulation for an increase. It seems prudent, therefore, to retain the balance of the $54,000,000 authorized for the United States now having a claim to it on a basis of equality of appropriations.

SUBSCRIPTIONS OF BANKS TO THE NEW LOAN.

The details of the subscription to the new loan show that the national Banks have, upon the whole, acted liberally, and have subscribed for over $100,000,000 subscribed for by them on their own account. It is not unreasonable to tender to these institutions the opportunity to subscribe for the same amount of the 5-20 bonds of July 14, 1870, to an amount equal to the deposits received of them on the same day for circulation, and to couple that after ninety days to the extent that the offer may be declined, other banking associations may be tendered the same privilege. Should the existing banks shall have failed to make the required subscriptions, and the same be offered to the new associations. The banks now organized cannot justly complain, if, having an opportunity to pursue the business upon the new bonds, and declining it, other associations shall succeed to their franchises and business.

ENGRAVING AND PRINTING.

The business of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing has been carried on with diligence during the year, and with satisfactory results. Although great efforts have been made at counterfeiting the special papers used by the department, they have not been successful, and the amount of fractional currency as well as not to excite serious apprehensions as to ultimate success. During 1869, 76,000,000 sheets of paper have been manufactured, all of which have been accounted for in the books of the department.

THE LIGHTHOUSE BOARD.

I respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made for a new issue of national bank notes. Those now in use are much worn, and the frequent counterfeits of several denominations have appeared.

NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The public building and custom house, court house and postoffice at Chicago was destroyed by the great fire on the 8th of October last. The ex terior walls remain, and the building could be restored; but anticipating the probability of the public demand for the magnitude of its public business, I advise the erection of a building suited to the wants of a first class city. It is important that a site for the new edifice of land should be obtained, either by an addition to the present lot or by the purchase of adjoining property. On the 18th of October last I wrote a letter to Governor Palmer asking for his co-operation with the legislature the passage of an act granting authority to the Courts of the State of Illinois to condemn such land as might be required for the Government, which should be unable to obtain it by purchase at a reasonable price, pending the action upon such an appeal. In every case the site for a building should be large enough to separate it from all other structures, thus furnishing sufficient light for it to proportion of business, and affording security also against fire and the depredations of lawless persons. It is hardly necessary to say that in the existing condition of affairs at Chicago, it is important that an appropriation available during the present fiscal year should be made without unnecessary delay. Since my last annual report the superintending architect has completed the custom house and Court House and Postoffice at Portland, Me.; the court house and postoffice at Madison, Wis.; the Court House and Postoffice at Madison, Wis.; the Agraharet at Milwaukee, Wis.; the Land and Marine office at Boice City, Idaho. It is now expected that the Custom House and Postoffice at Jackson, Miss.; the Marine Hospital at Chicago, Ill.; the Court House and Postoffice at Astoria, Oregon; the Custom House and Marine Hospital at Portland, Me.; San Francisco, Cal., and the Custom House at Cairo, Ill., will be ready for use by the first day of the first day of July next. At that time there will remain in an unfinished condition the Custom House and Postoffice at Columbia, S. C.; the Custom House at New Orleans; the Custom House at Postoffice at Knoxville, Tenn.; the Custom House and Postoffice at Portland, Oregon; the Court House and Postoffice at the Independent Treasury at Baltimore, and the Custom House and Postoffice at Omaha, Nebraska. The prosecution of these works, four of which are the largest ever undertaken by the Government, with public buildings to be erected at Chicago, and at the erection of marine hospitals at Baltimore, San Francisco and New York, will, in my opinion, sufficiently occupy the superintending architect during the year and the force at his command. I cannot, therefore, advise appropriations for other public buildings in addition to those in process of construction, until they have been completed. The points at which the erection of public buildings may be required are Hartford, Indianapolis, Cincinnati and St. Louis.

LIFE-SAVING STATIONS ON THE COAST.

Under an act approved March 3d, 1871, of Congress, appropriating two hundred thousand dollars for the purpose of more effectually securing life and property on the coasts of New Jersey and Long Island, a careful examination as to the best life saving stations has been made by experienced officers of the revenue marine service, and according to their reports, proposals were invited and accepted for the erection of fourteen new houses on the coast of New Jersey and upon the east end of Long Island.

THE OPERATIONS OF THE COAST SURVEY.

Which are under the administration of this department, have been prosecuted with the usual energy, as will be seen from the brief report of progress made by the superintendent, in advance of the more detailed reports with maps annually submitted to Congress. The survey of the Atlantic coast is now rapidly approaching completion. That of the Gulf coast is more than half finished, and the work on the Pacific coast is being prosecuted with energy. The estimates submitted substantially conform to the appropriations for the present year. An increase is asked for from the state of extending the triangular across the country to the Pacific ocean, great interest having been manifested by the authorities of the States traversed in the prosecution of the work.

THE LIGHTHOUSE BOARD.

The business entrusted to the Lighthouse Board is one of the most important branches of the public service in the control of this department, and I am able to state that the system is working well, and with reference solely to the maritime interests of the country. The estimates made by the Lighthouse Board exceed the appropriations for the present year, but they appear to be necessary, and I respectfully recommend them to the consideration of Congress.

MARINE HOSPITALS.

Under an act of Congress approved July 20th, 1870, Dr. J M. Woodworth has been appointed Supervising Surgeon of the Marine Hospital service. His administration is satisfactory to the department. The average number of hospital patients for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1870, was 1,016, and for the year ending June 30th, 1871, 1,158. The cost of the service for the first named year was $405,624, being an average for each patient of $1 09 cents, and for the latter year the amount was $405,792, or an average of $1 04 per day. In the first named year the hospital tax was $266,199 34, and in the latter year it amounted to $295,592 14. The Supervising Surgeon is of opinion that pavilion hospitals are better adapted to the economical treatment of the sick than the ordinary buildings of brick and stone, and that while the latter are only cheaper as a great. In accordance with his suggestion, I recommend an appropriation to be used by the next legislature the passage of an act granting authority to the Courts of the State of Illinois to condemn such land as might be required for the government should be unable to obtain it by purchase at a reasonable price, pending the action upon such an appeal. In every case the site for a building should be large enough to separate it from all other structures, thus furnishing sufficient light for it to proportion of business, and affording security also against fire and the depredations of lawless persons. It is hardly necessary to say that in the existing condition of affairs at Chicago, it is important that an appropriation available during the present fiscal year should be made without unnecessary delay. Since my last annual report the superintending architect has completed the custom house and Court House and Postoffice at Portland, Me.; the court house and postoffice at Madison, Wis.; the Agraharet at Milwaukee, Wis.; the Land and Marine office at Boice City, Idaho. It is now expected that the Custom House and Postoffice at Jackson, Miss.; the Marine Hospital at Chicago, Ill.; the Court House and Postoffice at Astoria, Oregon; the Custom House and Marine Hospital at Portland, Me.; San Francisco, Cal., and the Custom House at Cairo, Ill., will be ready for use by the first day of the first day of July next. At that time there will remain in an unfinished condition the Custom House and Postoffice at Columbia, S. C.; the Custom House at New Orleans; the Custom House at Postoffice at Knoxville, Tenn.; the Custom House and Postoffice at Portland, Oregon; the Court House and Postoffice at the Independent Treasury at Baltimore, and the Custom House and Postoffice at Omaha, Nebraska. The prosecution of these works, four of which are the largest ever undertaken by the Government, with public buildings to be erected at Chicago, and at the erection of marine hospitals at Baltimore, San Francisco and New York, will, in my opinion, sufficiently occupy the superintending architect during the year and the force at his command. I cannot, therefore, advise appropriations for other public buildings in addition to those in process of construction, until they have been completed. The points at which the erection of public buildings may be required are Hartford, Indianapolis, Cincinnati and St. Louis.

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THE OPERATIONS OF THE COAST SURVEY,

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1871.

CITY TICKET

MAYOR,
BENJAMIN W. MORGAN.
TREASURER,
CHRISTOPHER L. MAGEE.
CONTROLLER,
ROBERT J. MCGOWAN.

LOOK OUT FOR LAST CARDS.

Republicans are warned against last cards by the enemy. The silly report set afloat yesterday of importation of voters is a sample of what may be expected. There is no truth in any of their reports. Let Republicans do their duty and their entire ticket will be elected.

TO-DAY'S ELECTION.

Little can be added to what has been already said concerning the City Election to-day. The reasons why Mr. BLACKMORE should not be elected Mayor are manifold and conclusive. He was not a good Mayor when he occupied the position, and there is no reason for supposing that he would do better were he to be elected again. Neither himself nor his supporters promise amendment—they do not even admit his faults. Those faults are of a glaring character. They relate to the well-being of the entire community. Were it a fact that his illegal exercise of power in remitting fines, to say nothing of the wholesale discharge of bad characters of nearly every description, when arrested, was confined to solitary cases there would possibly be some excuse for him. But these remissions and discharges were by the wholesale, so that the law was virtually broken down. What has already been said in this regard may be repeated, for it is the solemn truth. *It will never do to elect Mr. BLACKMORE again.* To palter with crime and daily vice is always bad; when the Chief Magistrate of a city systematically stands in awe of the bad members of society, or fails to understand his duty regarding them, it is the citizens' duty to confine him to a single term.

And here we rest the citizen's duty to-day. Could there be higher ground? The lamentable consequences of disregarding it have, of late, been seen in so many forms—notably in the city of New York—that no word need be added. What has been true there is too liable to be true in every large community—will be true here, if the same neglect of duty is true of the citizen on election day.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The crowded condition of our columns renders it impossible to give the President's Message, herewith printed, anything like the consideration which its extrinsic and intrinsic importance alike demand; since, whilst by no means remarkable for graces of style or composition, it is one of the most plain, straight-forward, sensible, and upon the whole satisfactory documents of its kind transmitted to Congress for many years. After referring to the friendly relations of the United States with foreign countries, to the progress of civilization at home and abroad, and making a variety of suggestions proper to the effective carrying out of the different provisions of the late treaty with Great Britain, the importance of which, as the harbinger of a more pacific mode of settling international disputes, is tersely, but forcibly, dwelt upon, the Message proceeds at once to the consideration of matters which more nearly affect us. The disturbed condition of Cuba, and the annoyance and anxiety to which it has given rise, are remarked upon, and we are quite sure that every good citizen, without respect of party, will sustain the President in the instructions which, the Message states, he has caused to be conveyed to our naval commanders in Cuban waters, to spare no effort to protect the lives and property of American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the country. The recommendations which it makes for an appropriation to support a number of discreetly chosen American youth in China and Japan, to serve as a part of the official families of our Ministers to those countries, is a bit of homely, practical wisdom, whose value, in view of the constantly increasing importance of our relations therewith, will strike everybody at first sight; while the measures urged for the support of the American lines of steamers plying between our Pacific ports and the Australian Colonies, will also doubtless meet with the approbation of the country at large.

One of the most important portions of the Message is that which, in view of the rapid reduction of the public debt, and the strengthening of the national credit which has followed its accomplishment, questions the desirability of continuing to tax the resources of the country in the degree hitherto done, and recommends a decrease in the rate of payment, and a modification of both the tariff and internal revenue laws, by abolishing all internal taxes except those collected from tobacco, stamps, and vinous and malt liquors, and placing on the free list "those articles which can best bear it without disturbing home productions or reducing the wages of the American laborer." Wisely, as we think, the Message leaves the details of these matters untouched; but there is no doubt that the general idea will meet with approval from all classes; as will also its recommendations for revising the present laws for collecting the revenue, and its suggestions as to the desirability of giving a fixed value to our currency, approaching par with specie, in order to get rid of the pernicious financial and moral effects of the present constant fluctuations in the price of gold.

It is also gratifying to know that the Message is in accord with the report of the Postmaster General, concerning the consolidation of the various telegraphic systems of the country with its postal service. The workings of the system in other countries show that the plan is equally feasible for our own. Indeed, all the facts which relate to the subject tend to demonstrate alike its utility and necessity.

The statements of the Message with respect to the Indians, the Mormons, and the Ku-Klux of the South, accord with the recent policy of the Administration in regard to these matters; and, we trust, however, to general anticipation, it takes broad and liberal ground in favor of the removal of the disabilities imposed by the Fourteenth Amendment, and in so doing commends itself still further to the indorsement of a very large portion of the most intelligent and thoughtful citizens of the country.

Last, but not least, are the references which the Message makes to the subject of civil service reform; especially its strictures upon the prevalent habit of making recommendations for appointments to government positions without regard to the grave responsibilities incurred by the indorser in so doing, and its suggestion of the passage of a law making indorsers of persons to public place responsible for the honest discharge of their obligations. In these recommendations, as in all measures having for their object the purification and elevation of the public service, the President will be sustained by the unanimous voice of the people. Taken altogether, the Message will give general satisfaction, and increase the confidence already felt that the Executive has earnestly at heart the interest and welfare of the whole people, of whatever section.

A NEW development of the South Carolina bond question has occurred, which will bring the matter before the legal tribunals. Cardoza, the Secretary of State, is the custodian of the State bonds. He has been in the habit of delivering them to Treasurer Parker on demand. Last Thursday Parker sent for more bonds, which Cardoza refused to deliver up until informed of the purpose for which they were intended to be used. Parker claims that Cardoza's custody is merely perfunctory, and that he is obliged to deliver up on demand. Both parties agreed to test the matter, and the question M. Secretary, as brought before the Supreme Court. Cardoza, who is generally admitted to be an honest man, in the meantime refuses to deliver any more bonds, or to attach the seal of the State thereto.

WHERE IS PETER B. SWEENY?—Echo answers as usual, but nobody else can answer at all. Henry Smith, Hugh Smith and Queen M. Sweeny, are also unknown to the places which knew them before, and now Peter B. is lost to sight and to memory, of all our taxpayers, exceedingly dear—the dearest thing our city has ever enjoyed, take him all in all; say a hundred millions.—*N. Y. Citizen.*

DURING the present year there have been twenty-two State elections. Fifteen of the total number gave Republican majorities, and at the next Presidential election the electoral vote of these fifteen States alone would be sufficient to elect a President.

MESSAGE

OF THE

President of the United States.

WASHINGTON, December 4, 1871.

The following is the President's message, just transmitted to Congress:

ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In addressing my third annual message to the law making branch of the Government, it is gratifying to be able to state that during the past year success has generally attended the efforts to execute all laws found upon the statute-books. The policy has been not to inquire into the wisdom of the laws already enacted, but to learn their spirit and intent and to enforce them accordingly.

DISASTERS BY STORM AND FIRE.

The past year has, under a wise Providence, been one of general prosperity to the nation. It has, however, been attended with more than usual disasters, in the loss of life and property by storm and fire. These disasters have served to call forth the best elements of human nature in our country, and develop a friendship for us on the part of foreign nations which goes far toward alleviating the distresses occasioned by these calamities. The losses were so extensive as to generously shared their means with the victims of these misfortunes, will reap their reward in the consciousness of having performed a noble act, and in receiving the grateful thanks of men, women and children whose sufferings they have relieved.

OUR RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN POWERS.

The relations of the United States with foreign powers continue to be friendly. The year has been an eventful one, in witnessing two great nations, speaking one language and having one lineage, settling by peaceful arbitration disputes of long standing, and liable at any time to bring those nations into bloody and costly conflict. An example has thus been set which, if successful in its final issue, may be followed by other civilized nations, and finally be the means of refunding to productive industry millions of men now maintained to settle the disputes of nations by the bayonet and the broadside.

THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

I transmit herewith a copy of the treaty alluded to, which has been concluded since the adjournment of Congress with Her Britannic Majesty, and a copy of the Protocols of the conferences of the Commissioners by whom it was negotiated. This treaty provides methods for adjusting the questions pending between the two nations. Various questions are to be adjusted by arbitration. I recommend Congress at an early day to make the necessary provision for the tribunal at Geneva, and for the several commissions on the part of the United States, called for by the treaty. His Majesty, the King of Italy, the President of the Swiss Confederation and His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, have each consented, on the joint request of the two powers, to name an arbitrator for the tribunal at Geneva. I have cabled my thanks to be suitably expressed for the readiness with which the joint request has been complied with by the appointment of gentlemen of eminence and learning to those important positions. His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, has been pleased to comply with the joint request of the two governments, and has consented to act as the arbitrator of the disputed water boundary between the United States and Great Britain. The contracting parties in the treaty have undertaken to regard as between themselves certain principles of public law for which the United States have contended from the commencement of their history. They have also agreed to bring these principles to the knowledge of the other maritime powers, and to invite them to accede to them. Negotiations are going on as to the form of the mode by which the invitation is to be extended to the powers. I recommend the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the treaty relating to the fisheries and to the other matters touching the relations of the United States toward the British North American provinces, to become operative so soon as the proper legislation shall be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions, as it is much to be desired that this legislation may become operative before the fishermen of the United States begin to make their arrangements for the coming season.

I have addressed a communication, of which a copy is transmitted herewith, to the Governors of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin, urging upon the Governments of those States respectively the necessary action on their part to carry into effect the object of the article of the treaty which contemplates the use of the canals on either side connected with the navigation of the lakes and rivers forming the boundary, on terms of equality by the inhabitants of both countries. It is hoped that the importance of the object and the benefits to flow therefrom will secure the speedy approval and legislative sanction of the States concerned.

THE FORTY-NINTH PARALLEL.

I renew the recommendation for an appropriation for determining the true position of the forty-ninth parallel of latitude, where it forms the boundary between the United States and the British North American provinces, between the Lake of the Woods and the summit of the Rocky Mountains. The early action of Congress on this recommendation would cut it in the power of the War Department to place a force in the field during the next summer.

WITHDRAWAL OF PROTECTION TO GERMANS IN FRANCE.

The resumption of diplomatic relations between France and Germany, have enabled me to give directions for the withdrawal of the protection extended to Germans in France, by the diplomatic and consular representatives of the United States in that country. It is just to add that the delicate duty of this protection has been performed by the Minister and Consul General at Paris and the various Consuls in France, under the supervision of the latter, with great kindness as well as with prudence and tact. Their course has received the commendation of the German Government, and has wounded no susceptibility of the French.

GERMANY STILL FRIENDLY.

The Government of the Emperor of Germany continues to manifest a friendly feeling towards the United States, and a desire to harmonize with the moderate and just policy which this Government maintains in its relations with the Asiatic powers, as well as with the South American Republics. I have given assurances that the friendly feelings of that Government are fully shared by the United States.

The ratifications of the consular and naturalization conventions with the Austro-Hungarian Empire have been exchanged.

ITALY.

I have been officially informed of the annexation of the States of the Church to the Kingdom of Italy, and the removal of the capital of that kingdom to Rome. In conformity with the established policy of the United States, I have recognized this change. The ratifications of a new treaty of commerce between the United States and Italy have been exchanged. The two powers have agreed in this treaty that private property at sea shall be respected during a war between the two powers. The United States have spared no opportunity of incorporating this rule into the obligation of nations.

CLAIMS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AGAINST SPAIN.

The forty-first Congress, at the third session, made an appropriation for the organization of a mixed commission for adjudicating upon the claims of citizens of the United States against Spain, growing out of the insurrection in Cuba. That commission has since been organized. I transmit herewith the correspondence relating to its formation and its jurisdiction. It is to be hoped that this commission will afford the claimants a complete remedy for their injuries.

RESTORATION OF PEACE BETWEEN SPAIN AND SOUTH AMERICA.

It has been made the agreeable duty of the United States to preside over a conference at Washington between the plenipotentiaries of Spain and the allied South American Republics, which has resulted in an armistice with the reasonable assurance of a permanent peace.

RUSSIA—THE GRAND DUKE—CATACAZY.

The intimate friendly relations which have so long existed between the United States and Russia continue undisturbed. The visit of the third son of the Emperor is a proof that there is no decline on the part of his government to diminish the cordiality of these relations. The hospitable reception which has been given to the Grand Duke is proof that on our part we share the wishes of that government. The honorable course of the Russian Minister at Washington rendered it necessary that I should no longer delay to make suitable expressed for the readiness with which the joint request has been complied with by the appointment of gentlemen of eminence and learning to those important positions. His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, has been pleased to comply with the joint request of the two governments, and has consented to act as the arbitrator of the disputed water boundary between the United States and Great Britain. The contracting parties in the treaty have undertaken to regard as between themselves certain principles of public law for which the United States have contended from the commencement of their history. They have also agreed to bring these principles to the knowledge of the other maritime powers, and to invite them to accede to them. Negotiations are going on as to the form of the mode by which the invitation is to be extended to the powers. I recommend the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the treaty relating to the fisheries and to the other matters touching the relations of the United States toward the British North American provinces, to become operative so soon as the proper legislation shall be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions, as it is much to be desired that this legislation may become operative before the fishermen of the United States begin to make their arrangements for the coming season.

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OUR INTERCOURSE WITH JAPAN.

With Japan we continue to maintain intimate relations. The Cabinet of the Mikado has, since the close of the last session of Congress, selected citizens of the United States to serve in offices of importance in several departments of the Government. I have reason to think that this selection is due to an appreciation of the disinterestedness of the policy which the United States have pursued towards Japan. It is our desire to continue to maintain this disinterested and just policy with China as well as Japan. The correspondence transmitted herewith shows that there is no disposition on the part of this Government to swerve from its established course.

THE WAR WITH COREA.

Prompted by a desire to put an end to the barbarous treatment of our shipwrecked sailors on the Corean coast, I instructed our Minister at Peking to endeavor to conclude a convention with Corea for securing the safety and humane treatment of such mariners. Admiral Rogers was instructed to accompany him with a sufficient force to protect him in case of need. A small surveying party was sent on reaching the coast, was treacherously attacked by a force of Coreans. Ample opportunity was given for explanation and apology for the insult. Neither came. A force then landed, and after an arduous march over a rugged and difficult country, the forts from which the outrages were committed were reduced by a gallant assault, and were destroyed. Having punished the criminals, having vindicated the honor of the flag, the expedition returned, finding it impossible under the circumstances to conclude the desired convention. I respectfully refer to the correspondence relating thereto herewith submitted, and leave the subject for such action as Congress may see fit to take.

THE MEXICAN FREE ZONE.

The Republic of Mexico has not repealed the very objectionable laws established, relative to what is known as the Free Zone, on the frontier of the United States. It is hoped that this may yet be done, and that more stringent measures may be taken by the Republic for the suppression of lawless persons on its frontiers. I hope that Mexico, by its own action, will soon relieve this Government of the difficulties experienced from these causes.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Our relations with the various Republics of Central and South America continue harmonious, with one exception, to be entirely friendly. I recommend some action by Congress regarding the overdue installments under the award of the Venezuelan Claims Commission of 1866. The interest accruing on this government present no justification for their absence of effort to protect their solemn treaty obligations. The ratification of an extradition treaty with Nicaragua has been exchanged.

EMANCIPATION OF SLAVES IN BRAZIL.

It is a subject for congratulation that the great Empire of Brazil has taken the initiatory step towards the abolition of slavery. Our relations with that Empire, always cordial, will naturally be made more so by this act. It is not too much to hope that the government of Brazil may hereafter find it for its interest, as well as intrinsically right, to advance towards entire emancipation more rapidly than the present attempt contemplates. The true prosperity and greatness of a nation is to be found in the elevation and education of its laborers. It is a subject for regret that the reforms in this direction which were voluntarily promised by the statesmen of Spain have not been carried out in its West India colonies. The laws and regulations for the gradual abolition of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico leave most of the laborers in bondage with no hope of release until their lives become a burden to their employers.

AMERICAN CITIZENS OWNING SLAVES ABROAD.

I desire to direct your attention to the fact that citizens of the United States, or persons claiming to be citizens of the United States, are large holders in foreign lands of this species of property, forbidden by fundamental law of their alleged country. I recommend to Congress to provide by stringent legislation a sufficient penalty against the holding, owning or dealing in slaves or being interested in slave property in foreign lands, either as owners, heirs or mortgagees by citizens of the United States.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.

It is to be regretted that the disturbed condition of the Island of Cuba continues to be a source of annoyance and of anxiety. The existence of a protracted struggle in such close proximity to our own territory, without apparent prospect of an early termination, cannot be other than an object of concern to a people who, while abstaining from interference in the affairs of other powers, naturally desire to see every country in the undisturbed enjoyment of peace, prosperity and the blessings of free institutions. Our naval commanders in Cuban waters have been instructed, in case it should become necessary, to spare no effort to protect the lives and property of *bona fide* American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the flag. It is hoped that all pending questions with Spain growing out of the affairs in Cuba may be adjusted in the spirit of peace and conciliation which has hitherto guided the two powers in their treatment of such questions.

EDUCATION OF AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN CHINA AND JAPAN RECOMMENDED.

To give importance and to add to the efficiency of our diplomatic relations with Japan and China, and to further aid in retaining the good opinion of those people, and to secure to the United States its share of the commerce destined to flow between those nations and the balance of the commercial world, I earnestly recommend that an appropriation be made to support at least four American youths in each of these countries, to serve as a part of the official family of our ministers there. Our representatives would not even then be placed upon an equality with the representatives of Great Britain and of some other powers. As now situated, our representatives in Japan and China have to depend for interpreters and translators upon natives of those countries, who know our language imperfectly, or procure for the occasion the services of employees in foreign business houses, or the interpreters to other foreign Ministers. I would also recommend liberal measures for the purpose of supporting the American lines of steamers now plying between San Francisco and Japan and China, and the Australian line, almost our only remaining lines of ocean steamers, and of increasing their services.

THE NATIONAL DEBT

Has been reduced to the extent of eighty-six millions, fifty-seven thousand, one hundred and twenty-six dollars and eighty cents during the year, and by the negotiation of national bonds at a lower rate of interest, the interest on the public debt has been so far diminished that now the sum to be raised for interest account is nearly seventeen millions of dollars less than on the first of March, 1869. It was highly desirable that this rapid diminution should take place, both to strengthen the credit of the country and to convince its citizens of their entire ability to meet every dollar of liabilities without bankrupting them.

DIMINUTION OF THE BURDENS OF TAXATION.

But in view of the accomplishment of these desirable ends, of the rapid development of the resources of the country, its increasing ability to meet large demands and the amount already paid, it is not desirable that the present resources of the country should continue to be taxed in order to consume this rapid payment. I therefore recommend a modification of both the tariff and internal tax laws. I recommend that all taxes from internal sources be abolished, except those collected from spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, tobacco in its various forms, and for stamps. In readjusting the tariff, I suggest that a careful estimate be made of the amount of surplus revenue collected under the present laws, after providing for current expenses of the government, the interest account and a sinking fund, and that this surplus be reduced in such a manner as to afford the greatest relief to the greatest number. There are many articles not produced at home, but which enter largely into general consumption, through articles which are manufactured at home, such as medicines compounded, &c., &c., from which very little revenue is derived, but which enter into general use. All such articles I recommend to be placed on the free list. Should a further reduction prove advisable, I would then recommend that it be made upon those articles which can best bear it, without disturbing home production or reducing the wages of the American laborer. I have not entered into figures, because to do so would be to repeat what will be laid before you in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

SALARIES OF COLLECTORS OF CUSTOMS.

The present mode of collecting the revenue par collectors of customs small salaries, but provide for moieties or shares in all seizures, which, at the principal ports of entry particularly, raise the compensation of these officials to a large sum. It has always seemed to me as if this system must at times work corruptively. It holds out an inducement to an honest men, should such get possession of these offices, to be lax in the enforcing of goods entered, to enable them finally to make large seizures. Your attention is respectfully invited to this subject.

THE CURRENCY.

The continued fluctuations in the value of gold, compared with the national currency, has a most damaging effect upon the increase and development of the country, in keeping up prices of all articles necessary in every day life. It fosters a spirit of gambling prejudicial alike to national morals and to legitimate financiers. If the question can be made to how to give a fixed value to our currency, that value constantly approximating or approaching par with specie, a very desirable object will be gained.

THE ARMY.

For the operations of the army in the past year, the expense of maintaining it, the estimates for the ensuing year, and for continuing sea coast and other improvements conducted under the supervision of the War Department, I refer you to the accompanying report of the Secretary of War. I call your attention to the provisions of the act of Congress approved March 30, 1869, which discontinues promotions in the staff corps of the army until provided for by law. I recommend that the officers in each grade in the staff corps be fixed, and that whenever the number in any one grade falls below the number so fixed, that the vacancy may be filled by promotion from the grade below. I also recommend that when the office of chief of a corps becomes vacant, the place may be filled by selection from the corps in which the vacancy occurs.

THE NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows an improvement in the number and efficiency of the naval force, without material increase in the expense of supporting it. This is due to the policy which has been adopted, and is being extended as fast as material will admit, of using smaller vessels as cruisers on the several stations. By this means we have been enabled to occupy at once a larger extent of cruising grounds, to visit more frequently the ports where the presence of our flag is desirable, and generally to discharge more efficiently the appropriate duties of the navy in time of peace, without exceeding the numbers of men or the expenditures authorized by law. During the past year the navy has, in addition to its regular service, supported the men and officers for the coast survey, has completed the surveys authorized by Congress of the Isthmus of Darien and Tehuantepec, and under the act appropriating money sent out an expedition, completely furnished and equipped, to explore the unknown ocean of the North. The suggestions of the report as to the necessity for increasing and improving the material of the navy, and the plan recommended for reducing the personal of the service to a peace standard by the gradual absorption of certain grades of officers, the reduction of others, and the employment of some in the service of the commercial marine, are well considered, and deserve the thoughtful attention of Congress. I also recommend that all promotions in the navy above the rank of Captain be by selection instead of by seniority. This course will secure in the higher grades greater efficiency, and will put an incentive to young officers to improve themselves in the knowledge of their profession. The increased cost of not taking the navy, its cost compared with that of the preceding year, and the estimates for the ensuing year are contained in the accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy.

POSTAL AFFAIRS—TELEGRAPH.

The enlarged receipts of the Postoffice Department, as shown by the accompanying report of the Postmaster General, exhibits a gratifying increase in that branch of the public service. It is also a mark of the growth of education and of the prosperity of the people, two elements highly conducive to the vigor and stability of republics. While a vast territory like ours, much of it sparsely populated, has a requiring the services of the mail, it is not at present to be expected that the Department can be made self-sustaining; but a gradual approach to this end from year to year is desirable. The report on this day is not far distant when the Postoffice Department of the Government will prove a much greater blessing to the whole people than it is now. The suggestions of the Postmaster General for improvements in the Department, over which they will not be perfected by the statesmen of Spain have not been carried out in its West India colonies. The laws and regulations for the gradual abolition of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico leave most of the laborers in bondage with no hope of release until their lives become a burden to their employers.

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THE NATIONAL DEBT

Has been reduced to the extent of eighty-six millions, fifty-seven thousand, one hundred and twenty-six dollars and eighty cents during the year, and by the negotiation of national bonds at a lower rate of interest, the interest on the public debt has been so far diminished that now the sum to be raised for interest account is nearly seventeen millions of dollars less than on the first of March, 1869. It was highly desirable that this rapid diminution should take place, both to strengthen the credit of the country and to convince its citizens of their entire ability to meet every dollar of liabilities without bankrupting them.

DIMINUTION OF THE BURDENS OF TAXATION.

But in view of the accomplishment of these desirable ends, of the rapid development of the resources of the country, its increasing ability to meet large demands and the amount already paid, it is not desirable that the present resources of the country should continue to be taxed in order to consume this rapid payment. I therefore recommend a modification of both the tariff and internal tax laws. I recommend that all taxes from internal sources be abolished, except those collected from spirituous, vinous and malt liquors, tobacco in its various forms, and for stamps. In readjusting the tariff, I suggest that a careful estimate be made of the amount of surplus revenue collected under the present laws, after providing for current expenses of the government, the interest account and a sinking fund, and that this surplus be reduced in such a manner as to afford the greatest relief to the greatest number. There are many articles not produced at home, but which enter largely into general consumption, through articles which are manufactured at home, such as medicines compounded, &c., &c., from which very little revenue is derived, but which enter into general use. All such articles I recommend to be placed on the free list. Should a further reduction prove advisable, I would then recommend that it be made upon those articles which can best bear it, without disturbing home production or reducing the wages of the American laborer. I have not entered into figures, because to do so would be to repeat what will be laid before you in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

SALARIES OF COLLECTORS OF CUSTOMS.

The present mode of collecting the revenue par collectors of customs small salaries, but provide for moieties or shares in all seizures, which, at the principal ports of entry particularly, raise the compensation of these officials to a large sum. It has always seemed to me as if this system must at times work corruptively. It holds out an inducement to an honest men, should such get possession of these offices, to be lax in the enforcing of goods entered, to enable them finally to make large seizures. Your attention is respectfully invited to this subject.

THE CURRENCY.

The continued fluctuations in the value of gold, compared with the national currency, has a most damaging effect upon the increase and development of the country, in keeping up prices of all articles necessary in every day life. It fosters a spirit of gambling prejudicial alike to national morals and to legitimate financiers. If the question can be made to how to give a fixed value to our currency, that value constantly approximating or approaching par with specie, a very desirable object will be gained.

THE ARMY.

For the operations of the army in the past year, the expense of maintaining it, the estimates for the ensuing year, and for continuing sea coast and other improvements conducted under the supervision of the War Department, I refer you to the accompanying report of the Secretary of War. I call your attention to the provisions of the act of Congress approved March 30, 1869, which discontinues promotions in the staff corps of the army until provided for by law. I recommend that the officers in each grade in the staff corps be fixed, and that whenever the number in any one grade falls below the number so fixed, that the vacancy may be filled by promotion from the grade below. I also recommend that when the office of chief of a corps becomes vacant, the place may be filled by selection from the corps in which the vacancy occurs.

THE NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows an improvement in the number and efficiency of the naval force, without material increase in the expense of supporting it. This is due to the policy which has been adopted, and is being extended as fast as material will admit, of using smaller vessels as cruisers on the several stations. By this means we have been enabled to occupy at once a larger extent of cruising grounds, to visit more frequently the ports where the presence of our flag is desirable, and generally to discharge more efficiently the appropriate duties of the navy in time of peace, without exceeding the numbers of men or the expenditures authorized by law. During the past year the navy has, in addition to its regular service, supported the men and officers for the coast survey, has completed the surveys authorized by Congress of the Isthmus of Darien and Tehuantepec, and under the act appropriating money sent out an expedition, completely furnished and equipped, to explore the unknown ocean of the North. The suggestions of the report as to the necessity for increasing and improving the material of the navy, and the plan recommended for reducing the personal of the service to a peace standard by the gradual absorption of certain grades of officers, the reduction of others, and the employment of some in the service of the commercial marine, are well considered, and deserve the thoughtful attention of Congress. I also recommend that all promotions in the navy above the rank of Captain be by selection instead of by seniority. This course will secure in the higher grades greater efficiency, and will put an incentive to young officers to improve themselves in the knowledge of their profession. The increased cost of not taking the navy, its cost compared with that of the preceding year, and the estimates for the ensuing year are contained in the accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy.

POSTAL AFFAIRS—TELEGRAPH.

The enlarged receipts of the Postoffice Department, as shown by the accompanying report of the Postmaster General, exhibits a gratifying increase in that branch of the public service. It is also a mark of the growth of education and of the prosperity of the people, two elements highly conducive to the vigor and stability of republics. While a vast territory like ours, much of it sparsely populated, has a requiring the services of the mail, it is not at present to be expected that the Department can be made self-sustaining; but a gradual approach to this end from year to year is desirable. The report on this day is not far distant when the Postoffice Department of the Government will prove a much greater blessing to the whole people than it is now. The suggestions of the Postmaster General for improvements in the Department, over which they will not be perfected by the statesmen of Spain have not been carried out in its West India colonies. The laws and regulations for the gradual abolition of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico leave most of the laborers in bondage with no hope of release until their lives become a burden to their employers.

AMERICAN CITIZENS OWNING SLAVES ABROAD.

I desire to direct your attention to the fact that citizens of the United States, or persons claiming to be citizens of the United States, are large holders in foreign lands of this species of property, forbidden by fundamental law of their alleged country. I recommend to Congress to provide by stringent legislation a sufficient penalty against the holding, owning or dealing in slaves or being interested in slave property in foreign lands, either as owners, heirs or mortgagees by citizens of the United States.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.

It is to be regretted that the disturbed condition of the Island of Cuba continues to be a source of annoyance and of anxiety. The existence of a protracted struggle in such close proximity to our own territory, without apparent prospect of an early termination, cannot be other than an object of concern to a people who, while abstaining from interference in the affairs of other powers, naturally desire to see every country in the undisturbed enjoyment of peace, prosperity and the blessings of free institutions. Our naval commanders in Cuban waters have been instructed, in case it should become necessary, to spare no effort to protect the lives and property of *bona fide* American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the flag. It is hoped that all pending questions with Spain growing out of the affairs in Cuba may be adjusted in the spirit of peace and conciliation which has hitherto guided the two powers in their treatment of such questions.

EDUCATION OF AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN CHINA AND JAPAN RECOMMENDED.

To give importance and to add to the efficiency of our diplomatic relations with Japan and China, and to further aid in retaining the good opinion of those people, and to secure to the United States its share of the commerce destined to flow between those nations and the balance of the commercial world, I earnestly recommend that an appropriation be made to support at least four American youths in each of these countries, to serve as a part of the official family of our ministers there. Our representatives would not even then be placed upon an equality with the representatives of Great Britain and of some other powers. As now situated, our representatives in Japan and China have to depend for interpreters and translators upon natives of those countries, who know our language imperfectly, or procure for the occasion the services of employees in foreign business houses, or the interpreters to other foreign Ministers. I would also recommend liberal measures for the purpose of supporting the American lines of steamers now plying between San Francisco and Japan and China, and the Australian line, almost our only remaining lines of ocean steamers, and of increasing their services.

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James T. Brady & Co

Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS.

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

Money Loaned on Government Bonds at Lowest Market Rates.

☞Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of STOCKS, BONDS and GOLD.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

N. Holmes & Sons,

BANKERS.

We Offer for Sale a Limited Amount of the New Bonds of the

Allegheny Valley Railroad Co.

BEARING 7 PER CENT. INTEREST,

Free of All Taxation.

Principal and Interest Guaranteed by the

Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES RECEIVED IN EXCHANGE AT MARKET RATES.

N. HOLMES & SONS.

57 MARKET STREET, Pittsburgh.

Commercial Banking Company,

ALLIANCE, OHIO.

The undersigned have formed a Copartnership under the above name to transact a

GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS,

AT ALLIANCE, OHIO, and will give careful and prompt attention to all business entrusted to them.

Special attention will be given to Collections in ALLIANCE, CANTON, MASSILLON, SALEM, LESTONIA, NORTHBRANCH, NEW LISBON, and all other points in the part of Ohio.

Remittances made at Lowest Rates of Exchange.

Reference—Tradesmen's National Bank.

DAVID MORGAN, W. D. REES,
C. G. MAGAFFIN, H. P. McINTOSH,
R. W. TREETERS, Cashier.

Ira R. M'Vay & Co.,

BANKERS.

WE OFFER FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING

DESIRABLE SECURITIES:

CITY OF PITTSBURGH WATER LOAN AND PENN AVENUE BONDS, bearing 7 Per Cent. Interest, at Par and Accrued Interest.

PITTSBURGH AND CONNELLSVILLE SIX PER CENT. BONDS, DUE IN 1887. First Mortgage on Turtle Creek Division, at 85 and Accrued Interest.

New Allegheny Valley Railroad Seven Per Cent Bonds,

GUARANTEED BY PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY, free from all Taxes now assessed or COMPANY, free from all Taxes now assessed or hereafter to be assessed, for sale at 90 and Accrued Interest.

IRA R. M'VAY & CO.,

Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Streets.

FINANCE AND TRADE

MONDAY EVENING, December 4, 1871.

No quotable change in the rates for money to-day. The general condition of the market is close—bordering on stringency. Banks are lending to customers as liberally as practicable, and only partially meeting the demand upon them. A good deal of almost first class paper was placed with private lenders, at outside figures, by note brokers. Many parties think that money will be more plentiful here in a short time. The same cause that is rendering the New York money market close, and raising the rates for loans there, may have an opposite effect in the west. The drain of money from the eastern counties for the purpose of moving the crops, puts into circulation a very large amount of ready cash, which finds its way into our banks, increasing the volume of their deposits, and affording immediate monetary relief.

—Transactions in local stocks and bonds were very slim to-day. Some inquiry for Columbia oil stock at 20, but very little stock is brought out at that price. Allegheny county 5's are quoted at 80, Pittsburgh 5's at 75, and 6's at 85 to 90; Pittsburgh and Connellsville 7's are dull at 92—the Turtle Creek division at 80 and accrued interest.

The New York papers notice with great satisfaction that the first of December has passed without any shock of disturbance to the money market, such as was thought must of necessity result from the attempt to refund a hundred millions of the public debt into obligations bearing a lower rate of interest. As indicated earlier in the week, the several agencies of the Syndicate have, by a seeming house system like that of the New York banks, received subscriptions to the new loan, and, at the same time, made a place for the delivery of the "called" bonds. In this way the refunding process became a simple exchange of the old bonds for the new, although the holders of the former and the subscribers to the latter were never necessarily identical, and might be, as, indeed, doubtless were in many cases, parties living at very remote distances from each other. The smooth and eminently skilful manner in which the whole affair has been conducted by the Syndicate is a genuine triumph for American banking and financial institutions. It is no secret that many foreign houses were jealous of the undertaking, and gave the Syndicate at most only a lukewarm support. The success of the enterprise is therefore all the more creditable to the combination of American bankers who, under the unnaturalized term of Syndicate, carried it out amid obstruction abroad, envy at home and obstruction generally. In this connection we are beginning to come at an approximation of the amount of coin which the Treasury will have to disburse in redemption of the old 6's. The subscriptions to the new loan through the Syndicate will settle an equivalent principle of the old bonds. The amount of subscriptions to the new bonds that have been paid in coin and Treasury notes, in the intermediate agency of the Syndicate or any other banks, will, therefore, be the amount of coin which must come out of the Treasury to pay for the 6's which are in excess of what the Syndicate has provide for. This amount is somewhere between ten and seventeen millions—authorities dispute the point. A Washington dispatch verifies the lower extreme, by stating that the Treasury has already forwarded checks for $10,000,000 to various parts of the country in payment for bonds received at the department.

The changes in the price of Government bonds to-day were light. The new 5s are quoted at 109¾.

—Messrs. Ira R. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	117¾	117¾	117¾
U. S. Bonds of 1862	117¼	117¼	117¼
U. S. Bonds of 1864	114½	114½	114½
U. S. Bonds of 1865	114⅝	114⅝	114⅝
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	113¾	113¾	113¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	114¼	114¼	114¼
U. S. Bonds of 1868	114¾	114¾	114¾
10-40s	109⅝	109⅝	109⅝
Gold	109¾	109¾	109¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	110¼
United States 6s of 1881	117¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	114⅝
United States 5-20s of 1864	110¼
United States 5-20s of 1865	114¾
United States 10-40s	109¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	114¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	114¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	114¾
Union Pacific Railroad	———
Central Pacific Railroad	———
Currency Pacifics	112

The Wall street market opened up rather tame this morning, but closed very buoyant. It would appear that the "bull" clique have the power to mark up prices pretty much at pleasure. A correspondent of one of our brokers writes as follows, in reference to Chicago and Northwest common stock:

We have learned on very fair authority that the Tracy party, president and directors of Northwestern common, sold out their interest in that road some months ago, and virtually lost control of it. They are now trying to buy back the stock, but are opposed by Henry T. Smith, who very largely controls the stock. They passed no dividend last week in order to affect prices. The road has earned and could have paid the dividend and carried a fund to surplus. It seems probable that in the contest the price will be considerably advanced within a few weeks.

—The following table, made up from telegrams received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 4, 1871.	10:30 A.M.	11:15 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	4:00 P.M.
C. & H.	92⅜	92⅜	92⅜	92½	92½
Del. & Hud.	92	92	92	92	92
Erie	31	30¾	30¾	31	31¼
Pittsburgh	114½	114½	114½	115	115
Harlem	118	———	———	———	———
Mich. Cent.	———	———	———	———	———
Lake Shore	89	88	89½	89¾	89¾
Illinois Cent.	———	———	———	———	———
Cleve. & Pitts.	124½	125	125¼	125⅝	125⅝
C. & R. V.	63½	63½	63½	63½	63½
Del. & Wabash	65½	65¾	66	66	66
Pac. Mail	77	77	77	77	77
Fort Wayne	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
Ohio & Miss.	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾	42¾
Chic. & Alton	———	116½	———	———	———
Chic. & R. I.	———	107	———	———	———
Toledo	———	97	———	———	———
Pacific Mail	67½	67½	68	67½	67½
Adams Ex.	47½	47½	47½	———	———
Wells F. E.	———	56½	———	———	———
American E.	———	56½	———	———	———
U. S. Ex.	———	46	———	———	———
Gold	110¼	110¼	110¼	110¼	110¼

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	58½
Philadelphia and Erie	25½
Reading	57¾
Lehigh Navigation	58
Catawissa preferred	35½
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	45
Lehigh Valley Railroad	49
North Pennsylvania Railroad	60
Camden and Amboy Railroad	57
Schuylkill Navigation	133
Reading	16

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, he buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $200 and upwards on collateral or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, December 5, 1871.

REMARKS.—Owing to the extremely cold weather coupled with excitement consequent on the near approach of the municipal election, the markets showed little animation and no changes in prices. The following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Receipts 262 bbls. Sales good winter, round lots, $2 50@3 00; choice eating $3 50 dd. do.

ANTHRACITE COAL—Sales by the ton at $8 50 for lump; egg, stove and chestnut.

ASHES—Refined 4¾@4½c; pearls 9¾c; pots 7¾c; common soda ash 2c; bi-carbonate soda 4¾@4½c.

APPLE BUTTER—Goods in buckets $10 50; per dozen; kegs 60@70c per gallon.

BUTTER—Receipts by packages: prime table 24@25c; common not wanted.

BROOMS—Sales at 50c; No. 1, $4; No. 2, $3 50; No. 3, $2 75; common, $2 25@2 50 ⅌ doz.

BEESWAX—We have no change to note in prices. Sales at 30@32c ⅌ lb.

BAKING POWDER—¼-lb cans, by the dozen, $1 75; $2 25 for ½-lb can; $6 for 5-cans, and $20 ⅌ per dozen for 5-cans.

BEANS—White navy in fair demand at $3 25@3 50 ⅌ bushel; medium $2 75@3 00.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Receipts bacon pieces, 2,275. No change in prices. Sugar-cured hams 15@16c; ribbed sides 8¾c; short ribbed sides 9c; clear sides 9¾c; breakfast bacon 11½c; canvassed shoulders, sugar-cured, 9¾c; plain shoulders 8c; ham sausage 11¾c; thereof lard 10c; kegs 11½c; buckets 11½@12c. Dried beef 15c. Mess pork $14 ⅌ bbl.

LARD—In fair supply, with sales at $5 00@5 00 ⅌ barrel.

CANDLES—Star, full weight, 19c ⅌ lb; short weight 18c; mould 12c.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Sales at $6 50 for Pennsylvania and $5 50 for Philadelphia.

CARBON OIL—Non-explosive or fire test 21¾@21¾c per gallon. Nothing doing in advance for small lots.

CHEESE—Receipts 125 box. New York Goshen 15a 16c ⅌ lb. Ohio do 14½@15c; Ohio factory 14c; dairy 12@13c. There is an active demand.

CHESTNUTS—Round lots $3 00 ⅌ bu.

CRANBERRIES—Basket's fair Berries $11 00@13 00 ⅌ bbl; other varieties $12@13 per barrel; crates $4 00.

CEMENT—Beeson's Phoenix Hydraulic, $2 50@3 75; Johnston, $2 25; Rosendale, $4 00@4 50; Calcined Plaster, $4 50; Land Plaster, $3 50@3 75 ⅌ bbl.

DRESSED HOGS—The supply is on the increase, with sales at 6½c ⅌ lb.

DRIED FRUITS—Peaches, halves at 10@11c; quarters 6@7c; mixed 5@6c; apples 7¾@8½c for bright western.

EGGS—Scarce; fresh 26 ⅌ doz; salted 20@25.

FLOUR—Receipts 852 bbls. We quote as follows: Good spring extras $7 00@7 25 ⅌ bbl; choice Minnesota $7 75; fair to choice red winter $7 50@7 75. Rye flour, $4 50@5 00 ⅌ bbl. Buckwheat flour $4 50 ⅌ cwt.

FEATHERS—Sales live geese, No. 1, at 72@75c for round lots.

GROCERIES—We have no change in prices or improvement in the market to note, and quote as follows:

Refined Sugars—Crushed, powdered and granulated, 14c; A coffee 13¾c; B coffee, 12¾c; extra C 12¾c; Yellow 12¼@12½c.

Raw Sugars—New Orleans choice, 11¾c; prime 10¾@11c; fair do, 10¼c; Porto Rico choice 11¾c; prime 11¼c; good 10¾c.

Coffees—Fancy Rio 24c; prime 23c; good 22c; fair 21@21½c; Java 24@27c. Laguayra 24@26c; Mocha 34c; pure roasted 36@39c.

Teas—Fancy Young Hyson $1 65; prime $1 25; fair $1 00; lower grades down to 65c. Gunpowder fancy $1 60; good $1 30; fair $1 10. Oolong fancy $1 25; good 85c; fair 55@60c. Souchong fancy $1 10; good 90c; fair 60c. Japan fancy $1 00; good 80@85c; prime 65c. Medium New Orleans sugar cured 6c; do prime 6½; do choice 7@8c.

Molasses—New Orleans 95c; Rangoon 8c; Patna 85@90c; *Syrups*—Havemeyer & Elder 70c; white honey 65c;

GRAIN—Receipts wheat 1,106 sacks; corn 350 sacks; barley 1,050 sacks; rye 498 sacks; oats 1,379 sacks. The market is quiet and unchanged. We continue to quote red winter at $1 40@1 45 ⅌ bushel, and even as high as $1 48 for strictly prime lots; good white still rates 3 to 5c higher. The oats market is dull; mixed to prime by car load, 45@47c. Corn—new car is selling at 50@52c, and old held at 55@56c; shelled 53@54c; ear 50@52c; sales of prime white in small lots at 55c. Barley is quiet and steady; spot held at 125@130c; futures about the same.

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Barrels.
Thomas Ling	Standard Oil Works	483
T P Miller	Brilliant Oil Works	90
Thomas Ling	Eagle Oil Works	252
David Wilkins	Kier's Oil Works	234
David Wilkins	National Oil Works	80
W Tharp	Sterling Oil Works	474
L P Tack	Citizens' Oil Works	80
L P Tack	Standard Oil Works	160
H. McKelvey	Cosmos Oil Works	228
Thomas Hackett	Standard Oil Works	202
J Bushnell	Crystal Oil Works	174
J Bushnell	Model Oil Works	174
Mc Swing Stuart	Sunbeam Oil Works	154
Wm Stewart	Woodville Oil Works	398
Wm Dunn	Peerless Oil Works	560
H W C Tweddle	Aladdin Oil Works	560

Crude Oil Received by Rail and River.

	Bbls.
Standard Oil Works	640
Eagle Oil Works	382
Brilliant Oil Works	90
Citizens Oil Works	80
Empire Oil Works	302
Model Oil Works	74
Woodville Oil Works	398
Aladdin Oil Works	560
Total	4,870

Shipments of Refined Oil East via A. V. R. R., W. P. R. R. and P. R. R.

ALLEGHENY JUNCTION, December 2, 1871.

John Spear & Co, 211 bbls to Warding, King & Co, Philadelphia.

Montzheimer, K & Co, 541 bbls to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.

Braun & Wagner, 350 barrels to Waring, K & Co, Philadelphia.

Wagner, Meyers & Co, 100 bbls do Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

J H McKee & Son, 364 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Wm McKelvy & Co, 227 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Livingston Bros, 522 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Standard Oil Co, 635 barrels to Warden, F & Co, Philadelphia.

Citizens Oil Company, 106 bbls to Tack, Bro. & Co, Philadelphia.

Total..... 3,056

Refined Oil Shipped East by W. P. R. R.

Elkins, B & Co, 100 bbls to P A Davis, Philadelphia.

Ralston & Waring, 103 bbls to Waring, King & Co., Philadelphia.

Total..... 203

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, December 4.—Cotton active and advanced; low middling 17¾@17¾c. Flour active and advanced; family $6 75@7 00. Wheat firm; red $1 43@1 45. Corn firm at 45@46c. Rye held firm at 75@80c. Oats firm and higher at 34@36c for prime to choice. Barley advanced to 75@80c. Provisions—Groceries and oils unchanged. Pork—full prices wanted, but no demand; $13 25@13 50. Lard firm at 8¼@8½c for prime steam; kettle rendered 9c; shoulders 8c; sides, clear rib, 6c; sides clear, 6¾c, all loose and twenty to twenty-five days in salt. Bacon firm; sugar cured 7, 8¾@9c; shoulders 5½c—all packed; buyers offer a shade less. Hogs active and advanced at firm at 90c. Green meat two days 10,120. Whisky dull at 90c. Green meat two days 10,120. Whisky dull at 90c. Receipts 1,145 bbls; shipments 2,000 bbls; on hand 7,870. Coffee firm; Rio 23@25c. Sugar steady; fair to good refining 9½@10c; prime 10¼@10½c; New Orleans 11@12c. Molasses steady; fair to prime 70@75c. Crude petroleum 12½c; refined 25c. Turpentine firm at 42c. Pork weak; mess $13 25@13 40; February $14 75. Beef cut meats unchanged; middles heavy; No 1 clear and short rips 7¾c, long cut; hams 9½c; short clear, December to February, 7¾@8c; short ribs, January, 7½c. Lard dull; No 1 to prime steam 9@9½c; prime kettle rendered 9½c; January 8¾c.

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, December 4.—Cotton quiet at 17½c. Flour—Low grades scarce and firm; prices entirely unchanged. Wheat dull; No 2 red $1 38. Corn steady; mixed, track, 35c; do sacked 41@42½c. Barley firm; No. 2 Iowa 65c. Rye firm; No. 2 75@76c. Whisky firm at 91½c. Tobacco active at full prices. Hemp nominal at 95@$1 40, fair to choice undressed. Bagging quiet, 15½@16c. Pork, order lots, $13. Dry salt meat only order sales; shoulders 5½@5½c; clear rib 6¾@6¾c; clear 6¾@6¾c. Bacon easier; for clear rib 7¼@7½c; clear firm at 7¾@8c. Lard active at 8½c; cash and seller first half January. Green hams 7¼@7½c. Hogs opened higher; 10@15c; but lower and closed off and prices fell 10c, closing with a downward tendency. Cattle unchanged. Sheep firmer; prices to choice. Receipts of flour 6,000 bbls; wheat 16,000 bush; corn 5,000 bush; oats 6,000 bush; barley none; rye 3,000 bush; hogs 11,000 head.

Cleveland Market.

CLEVELAND, December 4.—Wheat dull and heavy; No 1 red winter $1 43; No 2 red winter $1 34. Corn steady; car lots, high mixed 50c; low do 55c; new 53c. Oats steady at 40c. Refined petroleum active at 21¾@21¾c, car lots; crude firm and better at $4 80@4 85.

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, December 4.—Flour dull but unchanged. Wheat dull and drooping; No 1 $1 22; No 2 $1 19½. Oats steady; No 2, 32½c. Corn—No 2 mixed 41½c. Rye scarce and firm; No 1, 63c. Barley steady; fall No 2, 64c. Hogs steady at $3 25@4 20.

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, December 4.—Flour dull and unchanged; Ohio and Indiana $7@7 50. Wheat quiet; red western $1 57@1 61. Rye dull, but unchanged. Corn firm; old yellow 58@59c; new 70@72c; old mixed western 72@75c. Petroleum unchanged. Whisky held at 90c.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, December 4.—Flour firm; western $7 @7 50. Wheat steady; Pennsylvania $1 60@1 65. Corn active; mixed western 71@73c. Oats steady. Provisions unchanged. Western butter heavy; good to prime rolls 30@32c; choice 24@25c. Whisky nominally 94@95c.

Detroit Market.

DETROIT, December 4.—Wheat dull and declined; amber $1 42; extra $1 50; No 1 white $1 44@. Hogs quiet; buyers and sellers apart; $5 00 asked, $4 85 bid. Clover seed $6 85.

AIKEN'S Perfect fitting SHIRTS

Directions for Self-Measure sent on application. Perfect Fitting Shirts of every description always in stock and warranted to fit.

JAMES H. AIKEN,

74 Fifth avenue, opposite Postoffice.

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 4, 1871.

Cattle.

The arrivals of cattle by the various railroads centering at the Union Yards were thirteen cars, and eight cars mixed stock, part of which were cattle, making about 400 head by rail. In addition to these there were six head droves from Butler, Washington and Greene counties, and also from East Liberty yards, making a total of 750 or 800 cattle on sale this morning. The quality of the offerings generally were of medium and common, although there were some strictly prime and a few extra cattle on sale. The market opened up slow on the medium and common, while on the better grades, owing to the fact that they were not in abundant supply, it was more brisk. For good to strictly prime, the prices obtained were probably a shade better than last week, and the market a little more active. The medium class of cattle, such as are purchased by the majority of the butchers, were in supply greater than the demand, and prices may be quoted a shade lower. On the whole the market was not satisfactory to sellers, and we heard several complaining about losing money.

Stockers.

The offerings of stockers was larger than for some time, and the market slower than it should have been, as the number of buyers for this grade of cattle, in attendance was quite large. The low prices that farmers have had to sell their fat cattle this fall has almost scared them from purchasing feeders, for there is no doubt but what they all lost money, selling their cattle when fat in many instances for less money than they paid for them, thereby losing feed, time, trouble and interest on money invested in the stock. To-day they wanted to purchase at figures so extremely low that sellers could not stand it, and consequently the trade was very slow. Several lots changed hands early and hanging back on part of buyers some sales were made at prices ranging from $3 50 to $3 75 ⅌ 100 lbs. Dealers all say that stock cattle cannot be shipped to the West and sold at a profit at more than $4 00 ⅌ 100 lbs., and unless buyers come up a little the trade will rule dull the balance of the season. The following were the prices obtained for the different grades of cattle:

Extra.....1,200 to 1,300 lbs steers $6 00 to $6 25; prime, 1,200 to 1,300 lbs steers, $5 25@5 75; medium, 1,100 to 1,200 steers, $4 75@5 00; common butcher stock, $4 25@4 50; cows and heifers, $3 50 to $4 50; bulls, $2 50@3 00; stockers, $3 50@4 00.

ARRIVALS.

The following are the arrivals as reported by Mr. S. B. McKown, Agent Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad:

	Cars.
L. Rothchild, from Xenia, Ohio	1
Marks & Katz, from Chicago, Ill	1
Marks & Bro, from Urbana, Ohio	1
Greenwald & Kahn, from Crestline, Ohio	1
J. R. Groves, from Newark, Ohio	1
Hosier & Anderson, from Newark, Ohio	1
J. Manning, from Londonville, Ohio	1
J. W. Unger, from Canton, Ohio (mixed stock)	1
H. Johnson, from Enon, Ohio	1
Thomas Duzell, from Enon, Ohio	1
J. Lawrence, from New Carlisle, Ohio	1
J. Anderson, from Orrville, Ohio	1
G. D. Williams, from Bellair, Ohio	1
E. Thompson, from Belfair, Ohio	1
Cleveland & Pittsburgh Road (prepaid)	1

Hogs.

	Cars.
Greenwald & K, from Crestline, Ohio	1
J. R. Groves, from Newark, Ohio	1
P. M. Soyer, from Orrville, Ohio	2

Sheep.

Peter Hartman sold 40 head Washington county cattle at prices from $3 50 to $6 00 ⅌ 100 lbs; also, 1 bull at $2 ⅌ 100 lbs.

E Katz sold 23 head Westmoreland stock at figures running from $4 75 to $6 00 ⅌ 100 lbs; also, 1 extra Christmas bullock to Attenbaugh at $8 50 ⅌ 100 lbs.

Marks & Bro sold 50 head fat corn fed cattle from $6 25 ⅌ 100 lbs; also, 60 head stockers from $3 45 to 4 25 ⅌ 100 lbs; also, 1 extra Christmas bullock, weighing 1,900 lbs, to Chas Welty, at a private figure.

Jacob Stamberg sold 20 head Ohio and Washington county cattle at prices from $3 00 to $5 25 ⅌ 100 lbs.

S Lowenstein sold 20 head Greene county cattle from $3 25 to $4 25 ⅌ 100 lbs.

Keefer & Ryer sold 25 head Illinois cattle at figures from $3 25 to 4 25 ⅌ hundred lbs.

James Hanlin sold 25 head Washington county cattle at figures from $3 50 to 5 00 ⅌ hundred lbs.

Burt & Son, 1 bbl tallow, 173 hides; barley, Wm Flacus, 5 bbls s pelts; Bauchman & Co, 5 rolls leather; Wyatt, Lang & Co, 100 bbls flour; Schoonaker & Co, 14 do do; Graff, B & Co, 1 car limestone; J. Wainwright, 2 cars barley; Jones & Laughlin, 1 car s iron.

ALLEGHENY STATION.

J Rockendorfer, 10 bbls cider, S Ryer, 21 do apples; R Knox & Son, 10 do flour; D W Huntsman, 6 barrels, 1 box marble, 1 do glass; F Schmaufer, 48 bbls cider; John Addy, 25 pcs pipe; Ballou Bros, 163 bbls flour; Young & Booth, 1 car barley; J R Myers, 2 rolls leather. Superior Iron co, 2 car loads pig iron; W H Brill, 1 box drugs; Workman A D, 1 bx f wagons; Maria Cooper, 1 lot h h goods. I Walter & Son, 1 car lumber. J Lockhart 2 bxs soda; powder. W H Parke, 1 pc tobacco. Schoonaker & co, 1 car shipstuff. J Hippley, 1 do oats. Etna Iron co, 5 do cinders. A O E R Brinckerhoff, 1 do shingles. Clark, R, I. & co, 1 do do. D W Huntsman, 12 bdls leather. 56 pkgs bungers. J Orsch, 6 casks cheese, 1 keg butter, 3 boxes turkeys. Jno Seiling, 2 do do. Geo Garfee, 2 do do. Wm Lee, grease. Sexton & Rade, 2 bxs poultry. R Hunter, 3 d bags. Geo Slater, 24 bbls cider. F Beckert, 7 do do. J Lojnik, 4 do do. Geo Garfee, 2 do do. L Mutzig, 2 do do. Jno Huline, 9 do do. J Long, 3 do do do. G Gerwig, 3 do do. A S Clark, 20 doz brooms. Mc Nevet & H, 10 do do. J O A E R Benedict, 1 car lumber. Superior Iron Co, 7 do limestone. Kalya & Co, do fencing. M Sexton & Son, 100 bbls flour. Jas Wallace, 1 car feed. D C Martin, 1 box h h goods. Jas Gallery, lot cider. J M Hemphill, car stars staves and heading. Kalya & Robertson, 3 cars staves. R & A Carson, 30 bbls whisky. Dilworth, Straub & co, 2 cars bulk wheat. J H Straub, 1 car barley. Johnson & McFarland, 1 car baled hay. Stevenson Bros, 5 bales moss. J Neinscheffle, 1 car stone. John Herbert, 9 bbls apples. Dongiass, Anderson & Hays, 1 car lumber. McKirdy & Mc Cleave, 1 car do. John Nanz, 1 car do. Stevenson & C, 6 bdls paper. Excelsior Coffin Mfg co, 1 car lumber. Keystone Coffin Mfg Co, 1 car do. Patton Bros, 180 pcs pipe.

Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad.

J. Hippley, 4 barrels of hogs. Richelieu & Ontario, 1 lot furniture. Watt, Lang & Co, 14 bbls peas. C. Meyer, 12 bbls cider. Woodworth & D. A., 37 bbls apples. Thompson, H. A Co, 42 bbls cider. J. Lang & Co., 56 bbls cider. Dilworth, H. & Co., 1 car wooden ware. Sowden, Rhodes & Co, 3 bbls barley. Ellis, Riddle & Co., 2 cars cider; 50 cases cheese. Lubbe, H. & Bro., 20 bbls cider. Wm. Dodds, 1 car hay. Sol & Son, 56 dressed hogs. J. Rhodes, 5 empty hf bbls. J P Hannah & co, 25 dressed hogs. J & W Fahrley, 56 bbls flour, 75 bgs middlings. Hall, Collins, 10 bbls turnings. Scheback & Heyl, 1 car mill feed. T B Young & Sales Bro. W. Seibert, 1 do do. Stevenson & Marshall, K & co, 118 sks wheat. Schoonaker & co, 150 do do. Smith & Faust & co, 1 car coal. J M. Cracken & Bro, 87 sks wheat, 30 do rye. M Steel & son, 1 car oats, 7 bbls apples. Jas Irwin & co, 1 car cattle, 7 bbls apples.

Allegheny Valley Railroad.

Shoenberger B & co, 1 car limestone. Rinehart & S, 20 bbls tar oil, 40 do salt. Kirkpatrick & co, 2 sks wool. Schoonaker & co, lot oats. G A Kelley, 1 stove. M B Smith & Son, 50 bags. G Kahn, 16 bls g hide. Arbuthnot S & co, 1 bale d goods. R Buffenach, 2 pcs hides. W J Hoover, 19 bbls do. A McGrew, 20 bbls whiskey. J N Woodwell, 2 bx h ware. G H Anderson, 12 rolls leather. Westinghouse, Bro & Co, 2 bxs gauges. P H Eaton, 1 bx do. Dorter, Bell & co, 1 locomotive. W Fleeman, 2 bales cowtails, 1 do s pelts, 1 bbl table greese. W. Hoffman, 1 s pelt.

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad.

Moorhead & Co, 250 plates spelter. A J Hazard, 1 car bag. Wm Welch & Co, 16 sks oats. W Graham & Co, 50 bags feed. Schoonaker & Co, 10 bbls flour. J H Merrick, 1 do do. J Hoffer Son & Co, 6 dressed hogs. W S Gilman, 2 bbls varnish. F G Craighead, 1 car hay. Dilworth, H. & Son, 10 bbls apples. Voight, M & Co, 50 sks d fruit. J & R Johnson, 5 pcs tobacco. Knox & Orr, 35 bxs tobacco, 25 caddies do.

Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad.

65 pkgs lead. Fallnestock & co; 28 bdls hides Luckamp & Keefer; 10 drums do do Geo Heasley; 1 bbl oil, Sarver & co; 2 rolls leather. J A Herman; 1 crate g ware. C Boozenstein; 2 pckgs mdse, J Meyers& Son; 3 crates crockery, E E Hoops.

Coal.

1 car lumber, Calhoun & co; 75 bu wheat, Scott & Gessell; 21 do do, Gilmore & co; 5 bbls mil grease, W Smith; 20 bush oats, Jas McPhaheny; 70 bbls whiskey, Guckenheimer & Bro.

Zanesville.

THE STEAMER JULIA NO. 2

Clark & co, 1 bbl feathers, 15 do eggs, 12 rolls leather, 1 bl butter, 1 do poultry. W H Graff & Co, 6 sks flour, 3 do feathers, 1 keg do, 3 bbls beans, 4 do walnuts, 5 do molasses, 2 jars apple butter. J A Gray, 10 bbls cider, 1 do eggs, 1 keg butter. H Rhodes & Co, 1 bbl apples. Henry Bros, 2 sks wool, 14 sks d peaches, 2 tubs butter. Ripley & Co, 1 bl plum, 1 do do glass, 6 sks rags, 10 do bones. George Karness, on board, 168 bls apples, 5 do. cider. G A Wood, on board, 76 bls apples, 21 do. cider. Vangorder & Shepard, 3 bls eggs, 2 do beans, 6 boxes poultry. John N Lyons, on board, 4 bls walnuts, 2 do quinces, 1 bls sundries, 1 bskt eggs, 1 do beans, 6 boxes poultry, 1 bskt butter, 1 bx eggs, 1 bx goods. R Allen, 1 jar butter. Miss T B Parker, 1 bx goods. Jno Hull, 1 bbl tallow, 173 hides; barley. Wm Flacus, 5 bdls s pelts. Bauchman & Co, 5 rolls leather. Wyatt, Lang & co, 100 bbls flour. Schoonaker & co, 14 do do. Graff, B & co, 1 car limestone. J. Wainwright, 2 cars barley. Jones & Laughlin, 1 car s iron.

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[Continued from First Page.]

of the act of July 13, 1866, p. 21, of compilation of 1867, should be amended so as to make it apply to cases arising under any Internal Revenue act. As it is now it applies only to offenses under that act of 1866 and the previous act to which it was an amendment.

I would also recommend that the limitation of amount should be extended from three hundred to five hundred, as contained in the parallel provision of the customs laws, section 11 of the act of July 18, 1866, 14th Statutes at Large, p. 180. I would call attention to the report of last year in relation to the subject of "direct taxes," and would renew the recommendation of early legislation for the final disposition of all lands which have been acquired or are now owned by the United States under the direct tax law. The complaint, which has heretofore existed, of delay in the settlement of ex-collectors' accounts, has been, it is believed, entirely removed by the operation of the regulations of this office now in force. Prior to April, 1870, it appeared that the accounts of sixty-one ex-collectors had been closed, which number, has since been increased to 434, leaving at the present time 220 accounts still open. Of this number 118 have been placed in the hands of United States attorneys for suit on the bonds of the delinquent collectors, the residue being in course of adjustment at this office.

REPORT

OF THE

Secretary of the Interior.

The policy of the Government in the conduct of Indian affairs for the past two years has been productive of gratifying results. The services of the unpaid Board of Indian Commissioners have also exercised a wholesome influence in establishing the new policy, the most noticeable effects of which thus far have been to suppress Indian wars and depredations, to unite tribes upon designated reservations, and to improve them in agriculture and other industries. The success which has attended the policy offers reason to hope for the gradual social elevation and Christianization of the Indian. During the year, the various tribes have raised agricultural products to the value of more than eight millions of dollars, not including the products of the Cherokees, from whom no report has been received, but whose products last year were valued at over two and one-half million dollars; being an aggregate of about ten millions of dollars, the result of farm products. There are two hundred and sixteen schools among the Indian tribes, with three hundred and twenty-three teachers, and an average of 8,990 pupils. Some progress is also being made towards inducing the more troublesome and nomadic tribes in Arizona, New Mexico, and on the western borders of Texas, to accept and enter upon reservations, and there is reasonable ground to hope that it will eventually be accomplished. For this purpose it is of importance that increased and liberal appropriations for food, clothing, and farming implements be made by Congress. The establishment of a compulsory system of education, to such an extent as to withhold annuities from parents who refuse or neglect to avail themselves of the educational facilities offered, is also recommended, while the encouragement of agriculture by the payment of premiums for the best cultivated farms is suggested as a further means of their advancement.

The Indian population now under the jurisdiction of the United States is about 321,000, including the estimated population of Alaska. Excluding these, and 4,963 scattered throughout the Southern States, not maintaining tribal relations, the remainder are located on reservations embracing an aggregate of 128,473 square miles, or 137,846,911 acres. It is recommended that this Indian population be gathered into a smaller area, the Indian territory, South of Kansas and West of Missouri and Arkansas, being suggested; a step which would release nearly a hundred millions of acres from Indian occupancy, and throw it open to white settlement and cultivation, besides having a tendency to obliterate many of the existing obstacles to Indian civilization. The custom of holding all property in common, which is common to all Indian tribes, and a premium upon indolence and unthrift, would be abolished. Frequent changes of reservations, the source of so many of our troubles with that race in the past, would cease. The rewards of industry would be so liberal as to obliterate that long-standing prejudice against labor, while the lack of opportunity to engage in the chase, or in hostile raids, would soon lead them to do away with the desire to engage in those diversions, and those who were not convinced of the propriety of such a change would soon be compelled to recognize its necessity.

The aggressions of white settlers on Indian reservations are denounced, and the complaint of a number of tribes that the surveys of the railroads assigned to them through the Indian country deprive them of nearly all the reliable grazing and farming lands in consequence of reservations, are recommended to the attention of Congress, since they render the Indians unwilling to forego the tenure of their lands, bringing the good faith of the Government into doubt, and retard the working of the pacific policy. Mr. Colyer's mission to Coshise, the Apache chief, is described as having had a good influence, encouraging progress and inducing the Apaches to enter upon the designated reservations has been made. Instructions have been given the military authorities to co-operate with the officers of the Indian Bureau, and to advise the Apaches that if they will enter upon the reservation provided for them, in good faith, and live thereon peaceably, they will receive the aid and protection of the Government, but if they do not do so, and evince any disposition to renew their depredations, they will be promptly punished. Special agents have also been instructed to acquaint the Indians with the designs of the Government in concentrating them. It is recommended that when reservations contain more land than the Indians need, the surplus should, with their consent, be sold for their benefit, and that the proceeds applied to improvements and the establishment of industrial schools.

The number of acres of public lands disposed of during the year by cash entry, homestead, etc., was 7,092, 992, 68. The necessity for further legislation in regard to private land claims in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado is pointed out; the increased value of such lands in these Territories, consequent upon the extension of railroad facilities attracting settlers, rendering it a matter of great importance to their future prosperity that the land claims should be separated from the public domain at the earliest possible period, to accomplish which result existing legislation is inadequate.

A complete unification of the law of settlement and pre-emption rights is urged, and Congress is recommended to secure it. It is also suggested that agricultural scrip be by law assimilated to military land-warrants, to the extent that the same may be receivable in commutation of homestead entries; and recommended to grade that credit be given to soldiers in the late war for the full term of service rendered by them in the war, and that the same may be deducted from the term of years required by law to perfect a homestead.

The number of pensions of all classes, granted during the past fiscal year was 17,964. During the same period there were dropped from the pension rolls, from various causes, 8,251, leaving a grand total of 207,425 pensioners on the rolls June 30, 1871, at an aggregate annual rate of $22,894,994 29. The amount paid during and on account of pensions of all classes, including the expenses of disbursements, was $23,077,383 63, being $8,296,571 89 in excess of the amount paid during the preceding year. This excess is chiefly owing to the operation of the act of July 8, 1870, making pensions payable quarterly.

The work of the Bureau of Education and of the Census, is set forth at length, as are also the operations of the Geographical Survey, the condition of the railways receiving land grants, of the Capitol, and of the various benevolent and reformatory institutions of the District of Columbia.

REPORT

OF THE

Postmaster General.

The report of the Postmaster General states that the ordinary revenues of his department for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1871, were $22,996,607,04, and the expenditures of all kinds $24,390,104 98. The increase of revenue for the year 1871 over the year previous was $1,152,667 77, or 6.13 per cent., and the increase of the expenditures $1,041,122 45, or 4.45 per cent.; showing a net increase in revenue of $116,-401 32. There were in the service of the department on the 30th of June, 1,296 mail contractors. The number of mail routes in operation was 8,951, aggregating in length 288,359 miles. The new routes put into operation during the year amounted to 6,107 miles. A reduction of 1,000 miles is recommended. The total amount of compensation for the transportation of mails on railroads is recommended. The total amount of fines and resections imposed on post-masters was $86,179 72. The gratifying regularity of the mail service on the route to San Francisco and back is referred to. To the slight improvement of the service on Southern and Southwestern routes. Fifty-one persons have during the year been convicted and sentenced to different degrees of punishment for violation of the postal laws.

Special efforts have been made during the year to perfect the distribution of mail matter upon the lines of railway post-offices, and it is the purpose of the department to establish continuous lines of these postoffices throughout the country. The total number of letters exchanged during the year with foreign countries was 20,295,998, an increase of ten and a half per cent over 1870, the total postage on which amounted to $1,752,366 32, a decrease of eleven and two-thirds per cent. The chief reason for this reduction having resulted from the greatly reduced rates of international postage established between the United States and the different countries of Europe and other quarters of the world in the latter half of the fiscal year 1870, but the full effect of which was not realized until the year following. The total cost of the United States ocean mail steamship service for the year was $975,995 71. An increase of the mail service from monthly to semi-monthly trips is recommended between San Francisco, Japan and China, and from New York to Rio de Janeiro. Governmental aid is also recommended for the line which now carries our mails between San Francisco and the Australian colonies, under the patronage of the New Zealand government, manifest considerations of public policy and commercial advantage making it desirable that the United States shall unite with the Australian colonies in the improvement establishment of a speedy and rapid steam communication between the two countries.

Reference is made to the necessity of encouraging the construction and equipment of an efficient ocean steam mercantile marine, and the construction of the iron steamships now building at Philadelphia, to ply between that port and Liverpool, is pointed out as an enterprise deserving the encouragement of Congress. A reasonable compensation for carrying the mails, in excess of the postage receipts, with proper legislation, to encourage the construction by American builders of first-class iron steamships, is suggested as the most simple, economical and practical method of establishing American lines of ocean steamships and advancing the general prosperity of the country.

The free delivery system has been in operation during the year in fifty-two of the principal cities. The number of foreign and domestic letters received and registered at the dead letter office was 4,194,545. The number of money order offices in operation is 2,452, and the number of money orders issued during the year was 2,151,794, the aggregate value of which was $42,164,118 03, an increase in the amount of orders issued in 1870 of 23 4-5 per cent. Out of the whole number of orders paid, but 30, aggregating $992 68, was claimed to have been improperly or fraudulently obtained, the principal portion of which has since been recovered and paid to the rightful owners. The profits of the system during the year were $101,-181 18. The money order system established between the United States, Great Britain and Germany on the 1st of October shows in its workings that it will be extensively used by remitters of small sums to and from the two countries.

In view of past experiences, the propriety of an amendment to the laws regulating mail contracts is suggested, making it a misdemeanor, punishable by fine and imprisonment, for any person who, after bidding for mail service and receiving an award thereof, shall fail to make a contract and perform the service described in his proposal, or who shall withdraw or attempt to withdraw, after the day appointed for the opening thereof, any bid which he may have made for such service. It is also recommended that additional power be given to the Postmaster General to reject fraudulent, fictitious or improper bids, and to contract on the best terms possible from responsible parties whether bidders or not, for the performance of service for the residue of the term which prior contractors may have failed to fulfil.

The importance of the postal telegraph, in connection with the transmission and interchange of intelligence, is set forth at length, and the success which has attended governmental control of the lines in Sweden, Norway, Russia, Bavara, Italy, Turkey, Greece, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Prussia, France and England, is made the basis of an elaborate argument to demonstrate the desirability of introducing the same system into the United States, without further delay. The establishment of postal telegraphs upon the plan pursued in Great Britain, is also recommended; the purchase of the telegraph lines and appurtenances of all telegraph companies now in operation, and for the exclusive right and authority of the Government after the purchases shall have been concluded, to conduct the business of transmitting telegraphic messages, being urged. The report also renews the Secretary's previous recommendation for the repeal of the franking privilege, the incompatability of which existence with an economical and vigorous administration of postal affairs, is again pointed out. An increase to $5,000 a year, of the salaries of the three Assistant Postmasters General, and the Superintendents of Foreign Mails and the money order system, is also urgently recommended.

THE vine was planted in California nearly one hundred years ago by the first missionaries. But now the grape region consists of a vast area of mountain lands too high and dry for other crops. On this soil the grape flourishes and produces better wine than in the moist valleys. It is estimated that there are 30,000,000 vines growing in California, while the number is increasing every year. Los Angeles is the oldest vine growing county, and leads in the production of wine. As the vines grow older, the productiveness becomes greater. The wine interest is destined to assume magnificent proportions in California.

THE VERY LATEST.

XLI CONGRESS.

Opening of the Second Session.

List of the House Committees.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 4, 1871.

SENATE.

The Senate met at noon, with nearly a full attendance.

Several resolutions were introduced, among them one by Mr. MERRILL, of Vermont, directing an inquiry as to the expediency of immediately rebuilding the public buildings in Chicago.

Mr. SUMNER presented petitions for the passage of a civil rights bill.

Mr. EDMUNDS introduced a bill authorizing compound interest notes as a substitute for legal tender notes, ten millions to be dated the first of each month, commencing with July next, the required amount furnished of said notes to be used for all disbursements of the government except those due in coin; an equal amount of legal tenders to be cancelled each month; the compound notes to be convertible at the end of two years into 10-40 bonds, or sold at any time at par in gold for cancellation of legal tenders, said notes to constitute no part of the reserve of national banks.

The President's message was then received and read, and ordered to be printed.

The annual reports of departments were presented and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BLAIR offered a resolution calling on the President to state by what law he declared martial law and suspended the writ of habeas corpus in certain counties of South Carolina, and a statement of the facts on which he acted in issuing his proclamation.

Mr. LOGAN introduced a bill to provide for the relief of the sufferers by the fire at Chicago, providing for the free importation of goods and merchandise contributed in foreign countries for the relief of the Chicago sufferers, when consigned to proper aid societies for distribution; providing also for the payment of drawback of import duties on all materials to be actually used in buildings erected on the ground hurnt over by the fire. All of said materials shall have been inspected within one year from said date of fire, and suspending the collection of internal revenue taxes till the close of the next regular session of Congress in favor of such persons owning property in the first collection district of Illinois as have suffered material loss by the fire. Tabled.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 12 o'clock to-day. The President's message was received and read.

The SPEAKER announced the Standing Committees as follows:

Elections—McCreary, Iowa; Hoar, Massachusetts; Thomas, North Carolina; Perry, Ohio; Hazelton, Wisconsin; Eames, Rhode Island; Arthurs, Kentucky; Merrick, Maryland; Rice, Illinois.

Ways and Means—Dawes, Massachusetts; Maynard, Tennessee; Kelly, Pennsylvania; Brooks, New York; Finkelnburg, Missouri; Burchard, Illinois; E. R. Roberts, New York; Kendall, Indiana; Hock, New York.

Appropriations—Garfield, Ohio; Sargent, California; Dickey, Pennsylvania; Clark, New York; Painter, Iowa; Hale, Maine; Niblack, Indiana; Marshall, Illinois; Shellabarger, Ohio; Morrill, Maryland.

Banking and Currency—Hooper, Massachusetts; Waldron, Michigan; Scofield, Pennsylvania; Townsend, Ohio; Monroe, Ohio; Merriam, New York; Cox, New York; Randall, Pennsylvania; Dox, Alabama.

Pacific Railroad—Wheeler, New York; Buffinton, Massachusetts; Lynch, Maine; Sypher, Louisiana; Killinger, Pennsylvania; Beveridge, Illinois; Houghton, California; Averill, Minnesota; Wells, Missouri; Slaughter, Nevada; Smith, Kentucky; Harper, North Carolina; McInerny, Kentucky.

Claims—Blair, Michigan; Strong, Connecticut; Buckly, Alabama; Holman, Indiana; Smith, Virginia; Forker, New Hampshire; Ohio; Harris, Virginia; Foster, Pennsylvania.

Commerce—Shellabarger, Ohio; Sawyer, Maine; Conger, Michigan; Sheldon, Louisana; Negley, Pennsylvania; S. S. Cox, New York; Hambleton, Maryland; Townsend, New York.

Public Lands—Ketchum, New York; Townsend, Pennsylvania; Hawley, Illinois; Conger, Michigan; Dunnell, Minnesota, Rusk, Wisconsin; McCormick, Missouri; Ritchie, Maryland; Sanford, Oregon.

Postoffices and Post Roads—Farnsworth, Illinois; Hill, New Jersey; Twitchell, Massachusetts; Tyner, Indiana; Randall, Pennsylvania; Porter, Virginia; Haughton, California; Young, Georgia; Maynard, New York.

Manufactures—S. S. Burdett, Missouri; Ames, Massachusetts; Upson, Ohio; Stowell, Virginia; Dolarge, South Carolina; Rice, Kentucky; Rogers, New York; Sessions, Illinois; McCrary, Pennsylvania; Mitchell, Wisconsin; Williams, New York.

Agriculture—Wilson, Iowa; Hyde, Maryland; Havens, Missouri; Lamport, New York; Speer, Georgia; Hazelton, New Jersey; Hollenbeck, Pennsylvania; Garrett, Tennessee; Crossland, Kentucky.

Indian Affairs—Shanks, Indiana; Burdett, Missouri; Smith, Ohio; Minnegerode, Virginia; Powell, Pennsylvania; Edwards, Arkansas; Adams, Kentucky.

Military Affairs—Coburn, Indiana; Stoughton, Michigan; Hays, Illinois; Donnan, Iowa; Morey, Louisiana; Harris, Mississippi; Nocum, New York; Campbell, Ohio; Lerry, Virginia.

Militia—Shenck, Ohio; Longyear, Sprague, Ohio; Twitchell, Massachusetts; Watts, Florida; Rush, Wisconsin; Conner, Texas; Blair, Missouri; Acker, Pennsylvania; Hamilton, Texas.

District of Columbia—Starkweather, Connecticut; Williams, Indiana; Stevenson, Kentucky; Strong, Connecticut; White, Georgia; Foster, Michigan; Kinzella, New York; Meyers, Pennsylvania; Davis, West Virginia; Hancock, Texas.

Private Land Claims—Mercur, Pennsylvania; Upson, ohio; McGrew, West Virginia; Smith, New York; Coghlan, California; Hamilton, Texas; Haldeman, Pennsylvania; Bell, New Hampshire; Bright, Tennessee.

Naval Affairs—Scofield, Pennsylvania; Starkweather, Connecticut; Blackburn, Kentucky; Hale, Alabama; Platt, Virginia; Coghlan, California; Archer, Maryland; Sutherland, Michigan; Whitemore, Tennessee.

Foreign Affairs—Banks, Massachusetts; Myers, Pennsylvania; Whitford, Vermont; Lawrence, Ohio; Duell, New York; Packard, Maryland; Wood, New York; Morgan, Ohio; Robinson, Illinois.

Territories—Dafts, Nebraska; Alvee, Mississippi; Pindle, New York; Parker, Missouri; Lowe, Kansas; Shoemaker, Pennsylvania; Dunn, Connecticut; Vaughan, Tennessee; Howard, West Virginia.

Revolutionary Pensions and War of 1812—Miller, Vermont; Porter, Virginia; Eames, Rhode Island; Cobb, North Carolina; N. Sprague, Ohio; Beck, Kentucky; Forks, New Jersey; Caldwell, Tennessee.

Invalid Pensions—Moore, Illinois; Peck, Ohio; Wallace, South Carolina; Mc Jenkin, Pennsylvania; Wakeman, New York; Turner, Alabama; Bird, New Jersey; Mason, Indiana, and Spoel, Pennsylvania.

Railways and Canals—Packer, Pennsylvania; Ames, Massachusetts; Halsley, New Jersey; Morphis, Missouri; Knapp, Illinois; St. John, New York; Briggs, Decatur; Winchester, Kentucky; Lamison, Ohio.

Mines and Mining—Waldron, Michigan; Sargent, California; Banks, Massachusetts; Smith, Vermont; Negley, Pennsylvania; Sessions, New York; Burchard, North Carolina; Young, Georgia; Kendall, Nevada.

Freedmen's Affairs—Cobb, North Carolina; Brooks, Massachusetts; Butler, Tennessee; Seeley, New York; Snyder, Arkansas; Rainey, South Carolina; Farnsli, Pennsylvania; Braxton, Kentucky; King, Missouri.

Education and Labor—Pierce, Mississippi; Hoar, Massachusetts; Townsend, Pennsylvania; Butler, Tennessee; Bumgardner, Missouri; Elliott, South Carolina; McNeely, Illigois; Strong, Pennsylvania; McIntyre, Georgia.

Revision of Laws of the United States—Butler, Massachusetts; Pollard, Vermont; Ambler, Ohio; Armstrong, New York; Killinger, Pennsylvania; Bigley, Georgia; Leach, South Carolina; Sherwood, Pennsylvania; Sloss, Alabamma.

Coinage, Weights and Measures—Kelley, Pennsylvania; Hooper, Massachusetts; Beatty, Ohio; Stoughton, Michigan; Cutcheon, Virginia; Roberts, New York; Parker, New Hampshire.

Patents—Myers, Pennsylvania; Stevenson, Ohio; Brooks, Massachusetts; Barry, Mississippi; Walden, New York; Warner, New York; Hubard, West Virginia; Golladay, Tennessee; Dubois, Georgia.

Public Buildings and Grounds—Halsey, New Jersey; Thomas, Illinois; Platt, Virginia; Orr, Iowa; Farwell, Illinois; Sessions, New York; Getz, Pennsylvania; Wells, Missouri; Perry, New York.

Mileage—McGrew, West Virginia; Darrell, Louisiana; Hazelton, New Jersey; Golladay, Tennessee; Hall, Missouri.

Accounts—Buffington, Massachusetts; Sawyer, Wisconsin; Harris, Mississippi; Archer, Maryland; Lewis, Kentucky.

Expenditures in the State Department—Conger, Michigan; Whitely, Georgia; Havens, Missouri; Rogers, New York; Myers, Pennsylvania.

Expenditures in the Treasury Department—Lynch, Maine; Sypher, Louisiana; Hay, Illinois; Barnum, Maryland; Kendall, Kentucky.

Expenditures in the War Department—Williams, Indiana; Bigbee, Wisconsin; Snyder, Arkansas; Acker, Pennsylvania; Kinsell, New York.

Expenditures in the Navy Department—Kellogg, Connecticut; Parker, Missouri; Hasleline, Wisconsin; Briggs, Delaware, and Tuthill, New York.

Expenditures in the Interior Department—Barry, Mississippi; Hosmer, Pennsylvania; Bigly, Georgia; Roberts, New York, and Shaler, North Carolina.

Expenditures in the Interior Department—Hills, New Jersey, Smith, Ohio; Beveridge, Illinois; Adams, Kentucky; Connor, Texas.

Expenditures in the Post Office Department—Burr, Connecticut; Hooper